

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Amendment

LCO No. 10591



Offered by: REP. BLUMENTHAL, 147th Dist. SEN. FLEXER, 29th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. **7228**

File No. 693

Cal. No. 433

"AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REFORMS TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS IN THIS STATE."

Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
 following in lieu thereof:

"Section 1. Section 9-163aa of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

5 (a) (1) (A) Any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a regular 6 election, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a 7 period of early voting at each regular election held on or after April 1, 8 2024.

9 (B) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) of this 10 subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2, 11 commence on the fifteenth day prior to and conclude on the second day 12 prior to such regular election, and (ii) consist of such days between and 13 inclusive of such commencement and conclusion, except any legal holiday designated, appointed or recommended under section 1-4, and
at such times as provided in subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section
9-174.

(2) (A) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (4) of this subsection,
any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a primary, other than a
presidential preference primary, in accordance with the provisions of
this section, during a period of early voting at each primary, other than
a presidential preference primary, held on or after April 1, 2024.

22 (B) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) of this 23 subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2, 24 commence on the eighth day prior to and conclude on the second day 25 prior to such primary, other than a presidential preference primary, and 26 (ii) consist of such days between and inclusive of such commencement 27 and conclusion, except any legal holiday designated, appointed or 28 recommended under section 1-4, and at such times as provided in 29 subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-174.

30 (3) (A) Any eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a special
31 election, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a
32 period of early voting at each special election held on or after April 1,
33 2024.

(B) Subject to the provisions of subdivision (4) of this subsection, any
eligible elector may vote prior to the day of a presidential preference
primary, in accordance with the provisions of this section, during a
period of early voting at each presidential preference primary held on
or after April 1, 2024.

39 (C) The period of early voting under subparagraph (A) or (B) of this 40 subdivision shall (i) notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-2, 41 commence on the fifth day prior to and conclude on the second day 42 prior to such special election or such presidential preference primary, 43 except that such commencing and concluding days shall be adjusted to 44 exclude from such period March 31, 2024, and any legal holiday

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45	designated, appointed or recommended under section 1-4, and (ii)
46	consist of four total days between and inclusive of such commencement
47	and conclusion, as may be adjusted pursuant to subparagraph (C)(i) of
48	this subdivision, and at such times as provided in subdivision (2) of
49	subsection (c) of section 9-174.
50	(4) (A) Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 9-19e, 9-23a, 9-26,
51	9-31a, 9-55, 9-56, as amended by this act, and 9-57:
52	(i) In the case of an unaffiliated elector who wishes to vote during the
53	period of early voting at a primary, such elector shall be eligible to so
54	vote if such elector's application for enrollment with the political party
55	holding such primary is filed with the registrars of voters by twelve
56	o'clock noon on the business day immediately preceding the day on
57	which such period of early voting commences.
58	(ii) In the case of a person who is not admitted as an elector and who
59	wishes to vote during the period of early voting at a primary, such
60	person shall be eligible to so vote if such person's application for
61	admission as an elector and enrollment with the political party holding
62	such primary is filed with the registrars of voters by twelve o'clock noon
63	on the business day immediately preceding the day during such period
64	of early voting on which such person offers to vote at such primary.

(B) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent an individual
who enrolls in a political party during a period of early voting at a
primary from voting by absentee ballot, if eligible, or in person on the
day of such primary.

(b) (1) (A) The registrars of voters of each municipality shall designate
a location for the conduct of early voting [, which] <u>but, if the registrars</u>
<u>fail to agree as to such location, the legislative body or, in a municipality</u>
where the legislative body is a town meeting, the board of selectmen,
<u>shall designate such location. Such</u> location shall be the same for the
duration of the period of early voting except as otherwise specified in
this subdivision, provided [(A)] (i) the registrars of voters have access to

76 the state-wide centralized voter registration system from such location, 77 and [(B)] (ii) such location is certified in writing to the Secretary of the 78 State. [not later than sixty days prior to the day of an election or a 79 primary.] The written certification under subparagraph [(B)] (A)(ii) of this subdivision shall be submitted annually by the registrars of voters 80 81 to the Secretary not later than February fifteenth. Any change to such 82 written certification shall be made and submitted, and approved or 83 disapproved, in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (B) of 84 this subdivision. Such written certification shall provide [(i)] (I) the 85 name, street address and relevant contact information associated with 86 such location, [(ii)] (II) the number of election or primary officials to be 87 appointed by the registrars of voters to serve at such location and the 88 roles of such officials, and [(iii)] (III) a description of the design of such 89 location and a plan for effective conduct of such early voting, and shall 90 include the information required for same-day election registration 91 under subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-19j, as amended by 92 this act. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove such written 93 certification annually not later than [forty-five days prior to the day of 94 an election or a primary] March first. If the Secretary disapproves such 95 certification, the Secretary shall provide, in writing, the reasons for such 96 disapproval and shall issue an order for such corrective action as the 97 Secretary deems necessary, including, but not limited to, the 98 appointment of additional election or primary officials or the alteration 99 of such design or plan. After having received approval of such 100 certification or having complied with any order for corrective action to the Secretary's satisfaction, as applicable, the registrars of voters shall 101 102 determine the site of such location designated for the conduct of early 103 voting at least thirty-one days prior to an election or a primary. Such 104 location shall not be changed within such period, except, if the municipal clerk and registrars of voters unanimously find that such 105 106 location has been rendered unusable within such period, such clerk and 107 registrars shall forthwith designate another location for the conduct of 108 early voting to be used in place of the location so rendered unusable and 109 shall give adequate notice that such location has been so changed. The 110 provisions of sections 9-168d and 9-168e shall apply to such location 111 designated for the conduct of early voting.

112 (B) If, after the registrars of voters annually submit the written 113 certification under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, the registrars make any change to any part of such written certification, such registrars 114 115 shall submit to the Secretary of the State an updated written 116 certification, in a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary, as soon 117 as practicable but in no case later than seven days after such change. The 118 registrars shall clearly indicate on such updated written certification the 119 information that has changed since the prior submission. The Secretary 120 shall approve or disapprove such updated written certification as soon 121 as practicable but in no case later than seven days after submission 122 thereof. If the Secretary disapproves such updated certification, the Secretary shall provide, in writing, the reasons for such disapproval and 123 124 shall issue an order for such corrective action as the Secretary deems 125 necessary, in accordance with subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.

126 (2) In any municipality with a population of at least twenty thousand, 127 the legislative body may hold a public hearing on whether to designate 128 any additional location in such municipality for the conduct of early 129 voting, which public hearing, if any, shall be held not later than fifteen days prior to the time for designating any such location set forth in 130 131 subdivision (1) of this subsection. Any legislative body holding such a 132 public hearing shall properly notice such public hearing not later than 133 ten days prior to such public hearing in a newspaper having general 134 circulation in such municipality and on the Internet web site of the 135 municipality. For any such municipality in which such a public hearing 136 was not held, the legislative body thereof shall determine whether to 137 designate any such additional location and shall notify the Secretary of 138 the State with a detailed explanation for such determination. For any 139 municipality in which such a public hearing was held, not later than 140 three days after the conclusion of such public hearing, the legislative 141 body thereof shall determine whether to designate any such additional 142 location and shall notify the Secretary with a detailed explanation for 143 such determination. If the legislative body determines that any such

144 additional location be designated, the [registrars of voters] legislative 145 body or, in a municipality where the legislative body is a town meeting, 146 the board of selectmen, shall so designate such additional location and 147 the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall apply to such 148 additional location. The Secretary shall take no action on any detailed 149 explanation submitted under this subdivision with regard to the 150 number of additional locations designated in such a municipality, and 151 shall preserve each such detailed explanation as a public record open to 152 public inspection. For the purposes of this subdivision, "population" 153 means the estimated number of people according to the most recent 154 version of the State Register and Manual prepared pursuant to section 155 3-90.

(3) At each location designated for the conduct of early voting, the
registrars of voters shall provide to prospective electors during the early
voting period the opportunity to apply for same-day election
registration, in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 9-19j,
<u>as amended by this act</u>, for such application and for the completion and
processing of any such application.

162 (4) (A) The registrars of voters shall appoint, for each day on which 163 early voting is conducted, a moderator and such other election or 164 primary officials to serve at each location designated for such conduct. 165 The moderator so appointed shall perform any duty required, and may 166 exercise any power authorized, under this title related to the conduct of 167 early voting at such location. On any such day and solely for purposes 168 related to the conduct of early voting, the registrars of voters of a 169 municipality may, upon agreement, appoint one of the registrars from 170 such municipality as moderator in accordance with the provisions of 171 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision. The registrars of voters may 172 delegate to each other election or primary official so appointed any of 173 the responsibilities assigned to the registrars of voters. The registrars of 174 voters shall supervise each such official and train each such official to be 175 an early voting election or primary official.

176 (B) Whenever the registrars of voters of a municipality appoint,

177 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, one of the registrars 178 of such municipality as moderator to serve at a location designated for 179 the conduct of early voting, such registrars of voters shall jointly submit 180 to the Secretary of the State (i) a certification that the registrars of voters 181 of such municipality are in agreement as to such appointment, and (ii) 182 a written plan detailing alternative coverage of the duties normally 183 carried out by the registrar so appointed to ensure that such registrar 184 abstains, on each day in which such registrar serves as moderator, from 185 any such duties that conflict with those of the moderator.

186 (C) Not later than the fourteenth day preceding the commencement 187 of the period of early voting, the registrars of voters shall provide to the 188 Secretary of the State a written report setting forth the name, address and, if available, cellular mobile telephone number of the moderator 189 190 appointed to serve at each location designated for the conduct of early 191 voting pursuant to this subdivision. Such written report shall be 192 included as part of the written report provided by the registrars to the Secretary under section 9-228a, as amended by this act. 193

194 (c) Any elector who wishes to vote during a period of early voting at 195 an election or primary, and is eligible to so vote at such election or 196 primary, shall (1) appear in person at such times as provided in 197 subsection (c) of section 9-174, at the location designated by the 198 registrars of voters for early voting, and (2) identify such elector as 199 required by subsection (a) of section 9-261. [, and (3) declare under oath 200 that such elector has not previously voted in such election or primary, 201 as provided in subsection (e) of this section.]

(d) If the registrars of voters determine that an elector is eligible to
vote in the election or primary, the registrars of voters shall check the
state-wide centralized voter registration system before allowing such
elector to cast an early voting ballot as provided in subsection (e) of this
section.

(1) If the registrars of voters determine that the elector has not alreadyvoted, or if there is no report that the elector has already voted, the

209 registrars shall allow such elector to vote.

210 (2) If the registrars of voters believe that the elector may have already 211 voted, such matter shall be reviewed by the registrars of voters. After 212 completion of such review, if a resolution of the matter cannot be made 213 and such elector claims to have neither in fact voted nor offered to vote 214 in person or by absentee ballot, such elector may request a challenged 215 ballot in accordance with section 9-232d and may cast such challenged 216 ballot in accordance with section 9-232e. Such matter shall be reported 217 to the State Elections Enforcement Commission, which shall conduct an 218 investigation of the matter. The provisions of section 9-232f shall apply 219 to any challenged ballot cast under this subdivision.

220 (e) If the elector is allowed to vote, the registrars of voters shall 221 provide such elector with an early voting ballot, [and early voting 222 envelope and shall make a record of such issuance. The] shall make a 223 record of such issuance and shall announce to such elector the voting 224 district in which such elector resides and the ballot, corresponding to 225 such voting district, that such elector should properly receive. Prior to 226 marking the early voting ballot, the elector shall complete [an] a printed 227 affirmation [printed upon the back of the early voting envelope] in a log 228 book provided by the registrars of voters and shall declare under oath 229 that the voter has not previously voted in the election or primary. [The] 230 The Secretary of the State shall prescribe the form of such log book and 231 shall make a sample thereof available on the Internet web site of the 232 office of the Secretary of the State. Such printed affirmation shall be in 233 the form substantially as follows and signed by the voter:

AFFIRMATION: I, the undersigned, do hereby state, under penaltyof false statement (perjury), that:

1. I am the elector appearing in person to vote <u>early</u> at [an] <u>this</u>
election or primary. [prior to the day of such election or primary.]

2. I am eligible to vote in [the] <u>this</u> election or primary. [indicated fortoday.]

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240	3. I have identified myself to the satisfaction of the registrars of voters.
241 242	4. I have not voted in person or by absentee ballot and I will not vote otherwise than by this ballot at this election or primary.
243	5. I have received an early voting ballot for the purpose of [so] voting.
244	(Signature of voter)
245	(f) The elector shall forthwith mark the early voting ballot in the
246	presence of the registrars of voters in such a manner that the registrars
247	of voters shall not know how the early voting ballot is marked. The

248 elector shall place the early voting ballot [in the early voting ballot 249 envelope provided and deposit such envelope in a secured early voting 250 ballot depository receptacle] into the voting tabulator. At the conclusion 251 of each day during the early voting period, the registrars of voters shall 252 [transport such receptacle containing] (1) publicly open the voting 253 tabulator, secure and seal such day's early voting ballots [to the 254 municipal clerk, who shall] in a secure receptacle and retain and 255 securely store such ballots in as near a manner as possible to that for the 256 retention and secure storage of [absentee] ballots cast at polling places 257 under section 9-261, as provided in subsection (g) of this section, except 258 that, if such manner is not practicable, then such early voting ballots 259 shall be retained and securely stored as provided in an alternate plan 260 submitted by the registrars of voters to the Secretary of the State and 261 approved by the Secretary. [. On the day of the election or primary, the 262 early voting ballots shall be delivered to the registrars of voters for the 263 purpose of counting such ballots. A section of the head moderator's 264 return shall show the number of early voting ballots received from 265 electors. The registrars of voters shall seal a copy of the vote tally for 266 early voting ballots in a depository envelope with the early voting 267 ballots and store such early voting depository envelope with the other 268 election or primary results materials. The early voting depository 269 envelope shall be preserved by the registrars of voters for the period of 270 time required to preserve counted ballots for elections or primaries] and 271 (2) secure the voting tabulator in a locked area.

(g) Except as provided in section 9-163bb, as amended by this act, the
provisions of this title and any regulation adopted under this title
concerning procedures relating to the custody, control and counting of
[absentee] ballots <u>cast at polling places under section 9-261</u> shall apply,
as nearly as possible, to the custody, control and counting of early voting
ballots under this section. <u>A section of the head moderator's return shall</u>
show the number of early voting ballots received from electors.

279 (h) (1) No person shall solicit on behalf of or in opposition to any 280 candidate or on behalf of or in opposition to any question being 281 submitted at the election or primary, or loiter or peddle or offer any 282 advertising matter, ballot or circular to another person within a radius 283 of seventy-five feet of any outside entrance in use as an entry to any 284 building that contains any location designated by the registrars of voters 285 for early voting or in any corridor, passageway or other approach 286 leading from any such outside entrance to any such location or in any 287 room opening upon any such corridor, passageway or approach.

288 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, no person 289 shall be allowed within any location designated by the registrars of 290 voters for early voting for any purpose other than casting such person's vote, except (A) primary officials under section 9-436, (B) election 291 292 officials under section 9-258, including (i) a municipal clerk or registrar 293 of voters, who is a candidate for the same office, and (ii) a deputy 294 registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the office of registrar of voters, 295 performing such official's duties, and (C) unofficial checkers under 296 section 9-235.

297 (3) A person, including any candidate or any campaign or party 298 employee or volunteer, may be within the seventy-five-foot radius 299 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection (A) only for purposes 300 related to the performance of such person's official duties or to the 301 conduct of government business within such radius, (B) only for as long 302 as necessary to perform such duties or conduct such business, and (C) 303 provided such person is not engaged in any conduct described in 304 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

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305	(i) The provisions of subsections (a) to (h), inclusive, of this section
306	shall not apply to any primary held for the purpose of choosing town
307	committee members.
308	(j) No election or primary official shall perform services for any party
309	or candidate on any day during the period of early voting on which such
310	election or primary official is appointed to serve under this section, nor
311	appear at any political party headquarters prior to the hour prescribed
312	under subdivision (1) or (2) of subsection (c) of section 9-174, as
313	applicable, for the closing of the location designated for early voting on
314	<u>such day.</u>
315	Sec. 2. Section 9-163bb of the general statutes is repealed and the
316	following is substituted in lieu thereof (<i>Effective July 1, 2025</i>):
317	(a) [Early voting ballots received by the municipal clerk prior to the
318	day of an election or primary, and same-day] (1) Same-day election
319	registration ballots received by the municipal clerk prior to the day of a
320	regular election [,] shall be delivered by the municipal clerk to the
321	registrars between six o'clock a.m. and ten o'clock a.m. on the day of the
322	regular election. [or primary.]
323	[(b)] (2) The ballot counters for such [early voting ballots and] same-
324	day election registration ballots shall proceed to the central counting
325	location or to the respective polling places when counting is to take
326	place pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-147a at the time, between
327	six o'clock a.m. and ten o'clock a.m. on the day of the regular election,
328	[or primary,] designated by the registrars of voters. At the time such
329	ballots are delivered to the ballot counters pursuant to subsection (a) of
330	this section, the ballot counters shall perform any checking of such
331	ballots and proceed, as nearly as possible, as provided in section 9-150a,
332	as amended by this act.
333	(b) Upon the close of the polls on the day of an election or primary,
334	the moderator for the location designated for the conduct of early
335	voting, in the presence of the other election or primary officials at such

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336	location, shall immediately lock the voting tabulator for early voting
337	ballots against voting and immediately cause the vote totals for all
338	candidates and questions to be produced.
339 340	Sec. 3. Section 9-19j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (<i>Effective July 1, 2025</i>):
341	(a) As used in this section:
342 343	(1) "Election day" means the day on which a regular election, as defined in section 9-1, is held; and
344 345 346	(2) "Same-day election registration" means admission as an elector during the period of early voting at a regular election, as provided in section 9-163aa, as amended by this act, or on election day.
 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 	(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, a person who (1) is (A) not an elector, or (B) an elector registered in a municipality who wishes to change such elector's registration to another municipality pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (2) of subsection (e) of this section, and (2) meets the eligibility requirements under subsection (a) of section 9-12, may apply for same-day election registration pursuant to the provisions of this section.
 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 	(c) (1) (<u>A</u>) The registrars of voters shall designate a location for the completion and processing of same-day election registrations on election day, provided [(A)] (<u>i</u>) the registrars of voters have access to the state-wide centralized voter registration system from such location, and [(B)] (<u>ii</u>) such location is certified in writing to the Secretary of the State. [not later than forty-five days before election day.] The written certification under subparagraph [(B)] (<u>A)(ii)</u> of this subdivision shall [(i) include] <u>be submitted annually by the registrars of voters to the Secretary not later than February fifteenth as part of such registrars' submission under subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 9-163aa, as amended by this act. Any change to such written certification shall be made and submitted, and approved or disapproved in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (B) of</u>
365 366	certification shall be made and submitted, and approved o disapproved, in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (B) o

367 this subdivision. Such written certification shall provide (I) the name, 368 street address and relevant contact information associated with such location, [(ii) list the name and address of each election official who 369 370 shall] (II) the number of election officials to be appointed by the 371 registrars of voters to serve at such location [, if any] and the roles of 372 such officials, and [(iii) provide] (III) a description of the design of such 373 location and a plan for effective completion and processing of [such 374 applications] same-day election registrations. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove such written certification annually not later than 375 376 [twenty-nine days before election day] March first and may require the 377 registrars of voters to appoint one or more additional election officials 378 or alter such design or plan.

379 (B) If, after the registrars of voters annually submit the written 380 certification under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, the registrars 381 make any change to any part of such written certification, including for any additional location designated pursuant to subdivision (2) of this 382 subsection, such registrars shall submit to the Secretary of the State an 383 384 updated written certification, in a form and manner prescribed by the 385 Secretary, as soon as practicable but in no case later than seven days 386 after such change. The registrars shall clearly indicate on such updated 387 written certification the information that has changed since the prior submission. The Secretary shall approve or disapprove such updated 388 389 written certification as soon as practicable but in no case later than seven 390 days after submission thereof. If the Secretary disapproves such 391 updated certification, the Secretary shall provide, in writing, the reasons 392 for such disapproval and shall issue an order for such corrective action as the Secretary deems necessary, in accordance with subparagraph (A) 393 394 of this subdivision.

395 (2) The legislative body of the municipality may apply to the
396 Secretary of the State not later than seventy-four days before election
397 day, in a form and manner prescribed by the Secretary, to designate any
398 additional location for the completion and processing of same-day
399 election [registration applications] <u>registrations</u> on election day. The

Secretary shall approve or disapprove such application not later than
fifty-nine days before election day. If the Secretary approves such
application, the registrars of voters may so designate any such
additional location. The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection
shall apply to any such additional location.

405 (3) (A) The registrars of voters shall appoint, for each day on which same-day election registrations are completed and processed, a 406 407 moderator and such other election officials to serve at each location 408 designated for such completion and processing. The moderator so 409 appointed shall perform any duty required, and may exercise any 410 power authorized, under this title related to the completion and 411 processing of same-day election registrations at such location. On any such day and solely for purposes related to the completion and 412 processing of same-day election registrations, the registrars of voters of 413 414 a municipality may, upon agreement, appoint one of the registrars from 415 such municipality as moderator in accordance with the provisions of 416 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision. The registrars of voters may 417 delegate to each other election official so appointed [pursuant to 418 subdivision (1) of this subsection] any of the responsibilities assigned to 419 the registrars of voters. The registrars of voters shall supervise each such 420 election official and train each such official to be a same-day election 421 registration election official.

422 (B) Whenever the registrars of voters of a municipality appoint, 423 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, one of the registrars 424 of such municipality as moderator to serve at a location designated for 425 the completion and processing of same-day election registrations, such 426 registrars of voters shall jointly submit to the Secretary of the State (i) a 427 certification that the registrars of voters of such municipality are in 428 agreement as to such appointment, and (ii) a written plan detailing 429 alternative coverage of the duties normally carried out by the registrar 430 so appointed to ensure that such registrar abstains, on each day in which 431 such registrar serves as moderator, from any such duties that conflict

432 <u>with those of the moderator.</u>

433	(C) Not later than the fourteenth day preceding the commencement
434	of the period of early voting prior to election day, the registrars of voters
435	shall provide to the Secretary of the State a written report setting forth
436	the name, address and, if available, cellular mobile telephone number of
437	the moderator appointed to serve at each location designated for the
438	completion and processing of same-day election registrations pursuant
439	to this subdivision. Such written report shall be included as part of the
440	written report provided by the registrars to the Secretary under section
441	9-228a, as amended by this act.

442 (d) Any person applying for same-day election registration under the 443 provisions of this section shall make application in accordance with the provisions of section 9-20, provided (1) (A) on election day, the applicant 444 445 shall appear in person not later than eight o'clock p.m., in accordance 446 with subsection (b) of section 9-174, at the location designated by the 447 registrars of voters for same-day election registration, and (B) during the 448 period of early voting prior to election day, the applicant shall appear in person at such times as provided in subdivision (1) of subsection (c) 449 450 of section 9-174, at such location, (2) an applicant who is a student 451 enrolled at an institution of higher education may submit a current 452 photo identification card issued by such institution in lieu of the 453 identification required by section 9-20, and (3) the applicant shall 454 declare under oath that the applicant has not previously voted in the 455 election, as provided in subsection (f) of this section. If the information 456 that the applicant is required to provide under section 9-20 and this 457 section does not include proof of the applicant's residential address, the 458 applicant shall also submit identification that shows the applicant's 459 bona fide residence address, including, but not limited to, a learner's 460 permit issued under section 14-36 or a utility bill that has the applicant's 461 name and current address and that has a due date that is not later than 462 thirty days after the election or, in the case of a student enrolled at an 463 institution of higher education, a registration or fee statement from such 464 institution that has the applicant's name and current address.

(e) If the registrars of voters determine that an applicant satisfies the

466 application requirements set forth in subsection (d) of this section, the
467 registrars of voters shall check the state-wide centralized voter
468 registration system before admitting such applicant as an elector.

(1) If the registrars of voters determine that the applicant is notalready an elector, the registrars of voters shall admit the applicant asan elector and the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately.

472 (2) If the registrars of voters determine that such applicant is an 473 elector in another municipality and such applicant wants to change the 474 municipality in which the applicant is an elector, notwithstanding the 475 provisions of section 9-21, the registrars of voters of the municipality in 476 which such elector now seeks to register shall immediately notify the 477 registrars of voters in such other municipality that such elector is 478 changing the municipality in which the applicant is an elector. The 479 registrars of voters in such other municipality shall notify the election 480 officials in such municipality to remove such elector from the official 481 voter list of such municipality. Such election officials shall cross through 482 the elector's name on such official voter list and mark "off" next to such 483 elector's name on such official voter list.

484 (A) If it is reported that such applicant already voted in such other 485 municipality, the registrars of voters of such other municipality shall 486 immediately notify the registrars of voters of the municipality in which 487 such elector now seeks to register. In such event, such elector shall not 488 receive a same-day election registration ballot from the registrars of 489 voters of the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register. 490 For any such elector, the same-day election registration process shall 491 cease in the municipality in which such elector now seeks to register and 492 such matter shall be reviewed by the registrars of voters in the 493 municipality in which such elector now seeks to register. After 494 completion of such review, if a resolution of the matter cannot be made, 495 such matter shall be reported to the State Elections Enforcement 496 Commission which shall conduct an investigation of the matter.

(B) If there is no such report that such applicant already voted in the

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498	other municipality, the registrars of voters of the municipality in which
499	the applicant seeks to register shall admit the applicant as an elector and
500	the privileges of an elector shall attach immediately.
501	(f) If the applicant is admitted as an elector, the registrars of voters
502	shall provide the elector with a same-day election registration ballot and
503	same-day election registration envelope and shall make a record of such
504	issuance. The elector shall complete an affirmation imprinted upon the
505	back of the same-day election registration envelope and shall declare
506	under oath that the applicant has not previously voted in the election.
507	The affirmation shall be in the form substantially as follows and signed
508	by the voter:
509	AFFIRMATION: I, the undersigned, do hereby state, under penalty
510	of false statement, (perjury) that:
511	1. I am the person admitted here as an elector in the town indicated.
512	2. I am eligible to vote in the election indicated for today in the town
513	indicated.
514	3. The information on my voter registration card is correct and
515	complete.
516	4. I regide at the address that I have given to the registrars of voters
510	4. I reside at the address that I have given to the registrars of voters.
517	5. If previously registered at another location, I have provided such
518	address to the registrars of voters and hereby request cancellation of
519	such prior registration.
520	6. I have not voted in person or by absentee ballot and I will not vote
521	otherwise than by this ballot at this election.
522	7. I completed an application for a same-day election registration
523	ballot and received a same-day election registration ballot.
524	(Signature of voter)

525 The elector shall forthwith mark the same-day election (g) 526 registration ballot in the presence of the registrars of voters in such a 527 manner that the registrars of voters shall not know how the same-day 528 election registration ballot is marked. The elector shall place the same-529 day election registration ballot in the same-day election registration 530 ballot envelope provided, and deposit such envelope in a secured same-531 day election registration ballot depository receptacle. At the conclusion 532 of each day during the early voting period, the registrars of voters shall 533 transport such receptacle containing such day's same-day election 534 registration ballots to the municipal clerk, who shall retain and securely 535 store such ballots in as near a manner as possible to that for the retention and secure storage of absentee ballots, as provided in subsection (h) of 536 537 this section, except that, if such manner is not practicable, such same-538 day election registration ballots shall be retained and securely stored as 539 provided in an alternate plan submitted by the registrars of voters to the 540 Secretary of the State and approved by the Secretary. On election day, 541 the previously retained and securely stored same-day election 542 registration ballots shall be delivered to the registrars of voters and, at 543 the time designated by the registrars of voters and noticed to election 544 officials, the registrars of voters shall transport such receptacle 545 containing the same-day election registration ballots received on such 546 election day to the central location or polling place, pursuant to 547 subsection (b) of section 9-147a, where absentee ballots are counted and 548 such same-day election registration ballots shall be counted by the 549 election officials present at such central location or polling place. A 550 section of the head moderator's return shall show the number of same-551 day election registration ballots received from electors. The registrars of 552 voters shall seal a copy of the vote tally for same-day election 553 registration ballots in a depository envelope with the same-day election 554 registration ballots and store such same-day election registration 555 depository envelope with the other election results materials. The same-556 day election registration depository envelope shall be preserved by the 557 registrars of voters for the period of time required to preserve counted 558 ballots for elections.

(h) Except as provided in section 9-163bb, as amended by this act, the provisions of this title and any regulation adopted under this title concerning procedures relating to the custody, control and counting of absentee ballots shall apply, as nearly as possible, to the custody, control and counting of same-day election registration ballots under this section.

565 (i) After the acceptance of a same-day election registration, the 566 registrars of voters shall forthwith send a registration confirmation 567 notice to the residential address of each applicant who was admitted as 568 an elector on election day or during the period of early voting prior to 569 election day under this section. Such confirmation shall be sent by first 570 class mail with instructions on the envelope that it be returned if not 571 deliverable at the address shown on the envelope. If a confirmation 572 notice is returned undelivered, the registrars shall forthwith take the 573 necessary action in accordance with section 9-35 or 9-43, as applicable, 574 notwithstanding the May first deadline in section 9-35.

575 (j) (1) No person shall solicit on behalf of or in opposition to any 576 candidate or on behalf of or in opposition to any question being 577 submitted at the election, or loiter or peddle or offer any advertising 578 matter, ballot or circular to another person within a radius of seventy-579 five feet of any outside entrance in use as an entry to any building that 580 contains any location designated by the registrars of voters for same-581 day election registration balloting or in any corridor, passageway or 582 other approach leading from any such outside entrance to any such 583 location or in any room opening upon any such corridor, passageway 584 or approach.

(2) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, no person shall be allowed within any location designated by the registrars of voters for same-day election registration balloting for any purpose other than casting such person's vote, except (A) primary officials under section 9-436, (B) election officials under section 9-258, including (i) a municipal clerk or registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the same office, and (ii) a deputy registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the office of registrar of voters, performing such official's duties, and (C)unofficial checkers under section 9-235.

594 (3) A person, including any candidate or any campaign or party 595 employee or volunteer, may be within the seventy-five-foot radius described in subdivision (1) of this subsection (A) only for purposes 596 597 related to the performance of such person's official duties or to the 598 conduct of government business within such radius, (B) only for as long 599 as necessary to perform such duties or conduct such business, and (C) 600 provided such person is not engaged in any conduct described in 601 subdivision (1) of this subsection.

602 (k) No election official shall perform services for any party or 603 candidate on any day on which such election official is appointed to 604 serve under this section, nor appear at any political party headquarters 605 prior to the hour prescribed under subsection (b) or subdivision (1) of 606 subsection (c) of section 9-174, as applicable, for the closing of the 607 location designated for same-day election registration on such day.

608 Sec. 4. Section 9-228a of the general statutes is repealed and the 609 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

610 (a) [The] Not later than the thirty-first day preceding the day of each 611 municipal, state or federal election or primary, the registrars of voters of 612 each municipality shall [, not later than thirty-one days prior to each municipal, state or federal election or primary,] certify to the Secretary 613 614 of the State, in writing, the location of each polling place that will be 615 used for such election or primary. Such certification shall detail the 616 name, address, relevant contact information and corresponding federal, 617 state and municipal districts associated with each polling place used for 618 such election or primary.

(b) [The] <u>Not later than the fourteenth day preceding the</u>
commencement of the period of early voting at each municipal, state or
federal election or primary, in accordance with the provisions of
subsection (a) of section 9-163aa, as amended by this act, the registrars

623 of voters of each municipality shall [, prior to each municipal, state or 624 federal election or primary,] provide a written report to the Secretary of the State setting forth the names, [and] addresses and, if available, 625 626 cellular mobile telephone numbers of each moderator for each (1) 627 polling place location disclosed pursuant to subsection (a) of this 628 section, (2) location designated for the conduct of early voting pursuant 629 to subsection (b) of section 9-163aa, as amended by this act, and (3) 630 location designated for the completion and processing of same-day 631 election registrations pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-19j, as 632 amended by this act.

633 (c) The Secretary of the State shall have the authority to disqualify 634 any moderator appointed by the registrars of voters if, after consultation 635 with both registrars of voters, the Secretary determines such moderator 636 has committed material misconduct, material neglect of duty or material 637 incompetence in the discharge of his or her duties as a moderator. If the 638 Secretary disqualifies a moderator, the Secretary shall share his or her 639 findings upon which the disqualification was based with the registrars 640 of voters.

641 Sec. 5. Section 9-56 of the general statutes is repealed and the 642 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

643 Except as otherwise provided in the case of an elector whose name 644 has not been placed on or has been removed from the enrollment list under section 9-59, 9-60, 9-61 or 9-62, any elector not enrolled on any 645 646 enrollment list may at any time make a written and signed application 647 for enrollment to the registrars of voters on an application form for 648 admission as an elector, in accordance with the requirements of this 649 section. The application shall be effective as of the date it is filed with 650 the registrars of voters of the town of residence of the applicant and any 651 person making application for enrollment in such manner shall 652 immediately be entitled to the privileges of party enrollment unless the 653 application for enrollment (1) is filed in person by the applicant with the 654 registrars of voters after twelve o'clock noon on the last business day 655 before a primary, in which case he shall be entitled to the privileges of

656 party enrollment immediately after the primary, (2) is otherwise filed with the registrar after the [fifth] eighteenth day before the primary, in 657 658 which case he shall be entitled to the privileges of party enrollment 659 immediately after the primary, except as provided in section 9-23a, or 660 (3) is filed with the registrars of voters after 5:00 p.m. on the last business 661 day before a caucus or convention, in which case he shall be entitled to 662 the privileges of party enrollment immediately after the caucus or 663 convention. The application shall be signed or initialed by the registrar, 664 deputy, assistant or registrar's clerk receiving it, or by such other personnel as such registrar or deputy may appoint for the purpose, 665 666 showing the date when such application is received and, in the case of an applicant not immediately eligible under section 9-59, 9-60, 9-61 or 9-667 668 62 to the privileges accompanying enrollment in the party named in his 669 application, the date upon which such applicant becomes so eligible. In 670 municipalities divided into voting districts in which an enrollment 671 session is held in each district thereof under section 9-51, application for 672 enrollment shall be made to the registrar or assistant registrar, as the 673 case may be, in the voting district in which such elector is entitled to vote at the time of making such application. If any registrar or assistant 674 675 registrar fails to add any name to any such list on written application or 676 adds any name to any such list except as herein provided, he shall be 677 guilty of a class D misdemeanor.

Sec. 6. Subsection (d) of section 9-229 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*1, 2026):

681 (d) If the person designated as moderator is unable to serve for any 682 reason, a certified alternate moderator shall serve as moderator. If such 683 certified alternate moderator is not called upon to serve as moderator, 684 he shall serve in another capacity as an election official on election or 685 primary day. If any town or voting district lacks a moderator due to the 686 death, disability or withdrawal of a certified moderator or alternate 687 moderator, or due to the disqualification of a moderator for any reason, 688 including failure to attend an instructional session as required by this

689 section, the registrars of voters shall appoint a new moderator for such 690 town or voting district in the manner provided in this section, except 691 that the registrars shall not appoint as moderator any person who has, 692 in a court of competent jurisdiction, been convicted of or pled guilty or 693 nolo contendere to any (1) felony involving fraud, forgery, larceny, 694 embezzlement or bribery, or (2) criminal offense under this title. Such 695 new moderator shall attend an instructional session and a certification 696 session conducted in accordance with the provisions of this section. If 697 all such sessions have been conducted at the time of appointment of the 698 new moderator, the new moderator shall receive instruction from the 699 registrars who appointed the new moderator.

Sec. 7. Section 9-169 of the general statutes is repealed and thefollowing is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

702 The legislative body of any town, consolidated town and city or 703 consolidated town and borough may divide and, from time to time, 704 redivide such municipality into voting districts. The registrars of voters 705 of any municipality taking such action shall provide a suitable polling 706 place in each district but, if the registrars fail to agree as to the location 707 of any polling place or places, the legislative body shall determine the location thereof. Polling places to be used in an election shall be 708 709 determined at least thirty-one days before such election, and such 710 polling places shall not be changed within said period of thirty-one days 711 except that, if the municipal clerk and registrars of voters of a 712 municipality unanimously find that any such polling place within such 713 municipality has been rendered unusable within such period, they shall 714 forthwith designate another polling place to be used in place of the one 715 so rendered unusable and shall give adequate notice that such polling 716 place has been so changed. The registrars of voters shall keep separate 717 lists of the electors residing in each district and shall appoint for each 718 district a moderator in accordance with the provisions of section 9-229, 719 as amended by this act, and such other election officials as are required 720 by law, and shall designate one of the moderators so appointed or any 721 other elector of such town to be the head moderator for the purpose of

722 declaring the results of elections in the whole municipality, except that 723 the registrars shall not appoint as moderator any person who has, in a 724 court of competent jurisdiction, been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo 725 contendere to any (1) felony involving fraud, forgery, larceny, 726 embezzlement or bribery, or (2) criminal offense under this title. The 727 registrars may also designate a deputy head moderator to assist the 728 head moderator in the performance of his duties provided the deputy 729 head moderator and the head moderator shall not be enrolled in the 730 same major party, as defined in subdivision (5) of section 9-372. The 731 selectmen, town clerk, registrars of voters and all other officers of the 732 municipality shall perform the duties required of them by law with 733 respect to elections in each voting district established in accordance with 734 this section. Voting district lines shall not be drawn by a municipality so 735 as to conflict with the lines of congressional districts, senate districts or 736 assembly districts as established by law, except [(1)] (A) as provided in 737 section 9-169d, and [(2)] (B) that as to municipal elections, any part of a 738 split voting district containing less than two hundred electors may be 739 combined with another voting district adjacent thereto from which all 740 and the same officers are elected at such municipal election. Any change 741 in the boundaries of voting districts made within ninety days prior to 742 any election or primary shall not apply with respect to such election or 743 primary. The provisions of this section shall prevail over any contrary 744 provision of any charter or special act.

Sec. 8. Section 9-322a of the general statutes is repealed and thefollowing is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

747 (a) Not later than forty-eight hours following each regular election, 748 the registrars of voters shall provide the results of the votes cast at such 749 election to the town clerk. Not later than nine o'clock a.m. on the third 750 day following each regular election, the head moderator, registrars of 751 voters and town clerk for each town [divided into voting districts] shall 752 meet to identify any error in the returns. Not later than one o'clock p.m. 753 on the third day following each regular election, the head moderator 754 shall correct any error identified and file an amended return with the 755 Secretary of the State, the town clerk and the registrars of voters.

756 (b) Not later than twenty-one days following each regular state 757 election, the town clerk of each town [divided into voting districts] shall 758 file with the Secretary of the State a consolidated listing, in tabular 759 format, as prescribed by the Secretary of the State, of the official returns 760 [of each such voting district] for all offices voted on at such election, 761 including the total number of votes cast for each candidate, the total 762 number of names on the registry list, and the total number of names 763 checked as having voted. [, in each such district.] The town clerk of such 764 town shall certify that he or she has examined the lists transmitted under 765 this section to determine whether there are any discrepancies between the total number of votes cast for a candidate at such election in such 766 767 town, including for any recanvass conducted pursuant to section 9-311, 768 as amended by this act, or 9-311a, and the sum of the votes cast for the 769 same candidate in all voting districts in such town if such town has been 770 divided into voting districts. In the case of any such discrepancy, the 771 town clerk shall notify the head moderator and certify that such 772 discrepancy has been rectified. Each listing filed under this section shall 773 be retained by the Secretary of the State not less than ten years after the 774 date of the election for which it was filed.

Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,
"municipality", "government enforcement action", "federal Voting
Rights Act" and "protected class" have the same meanings as provided
in section 9-368i of the general statutes.

779 (b) The corporation counsel of any municipality that has been subject 780 to any court order or government enforcement action described in 781 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-368m 782 of the general statutes shall provide to the office of the Secretary of the 783 State all details pertaining to such matter not later than one month after 784 the effective date of this section, the issuance of such court order or the 785 commencement of such government enforcement action, whichever is 786 latest.

787 (c) If an action filed in a court of competent jurisdiction alleges a 788 violation of the provisions of sections 9-368 to 9-368q, inclusive, of the 789 general statutes, the federal Voting Rights Act, any state or federal civil 790 rights law, the fifteenth amendment to the United States Constitution or 791 the fourteenth amendment to the United States Constitution, which 792 violation concerns the right to vote or a pattern, practice or policy of 793 discrimination against any protected class, the party that filed such 794 action shall cause notice of the hearing on such action to be given to the 795 Secretary of the State.

Sec. 10. Section 9-388 of the general statutes is repealed and thefollowing is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

798 (a) Whenever a convention of a political party is held for the 799 endorsement of candidates for nomination to state or district office, each 800 candidate endorsed at such convention shall file with the Secretary of 801 the State a certificate, signed by him, stating that he was endorsed by 802 such convention, his name as he authorizes it to appear on the ballot, his 803 full residence address and the title and district, if applicable, of the office 804 for which he was endorsed. Such certificate shall be attested by either 805 (1) the chairman or presiding officer, or (2) the secretary of such 806 convention and shall be received by the Secretary of the State not later 807 than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day after the close of such 808 convention. Such certificate shall either be mailed to the Secretary of the 809 State by certified mail, return receipt requested, or delivered in person, 810 in which case a receipt indicating the date and time of delivery shall be 811 provided by the Secretary of the State to the person making delivery. If 812 a certificate of a party's endorsement for a particular state or district 813 office is not received by the Secretary of the State by such time, such 814 certificate shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of [section 9-815 416 and section 9-416a] sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be deemed to 816 have made no endorsement of any candidate for such office. If 817 applicable, the chairman of a party's state convention shall, forthwith upon the close of such convention, file with the Secretary of the State the 818 819 names and full residence addresses of persons selected by such

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820	convention as the nominees of such party for electors of President and
821	Vice-President of the United States in accordance with the provisions of
822	section 9-175.
823 824	(b) (1) In the case of a timely filed certificate of a party's endorsement
824 825	pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, which contains an error or
825 826	omission that would operate to invalidate such endorsement, the candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of
827	such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in
828	<u>person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock</u>
829	p.m. on the nineteenth day after the close of the state or district
830	convention, as applicable, and amending such certificate to make such
831	correction. If such candidate or individual does not appear to so amend
832	such certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such
833	party, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be deemed to
834	have made no such endorsement.
835	(2) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
836	subdivision (1) of this subsection, amend a timely filed certificate of a
837	party's endorsement to correct any such error or omission, and shall
838	keep a record of any such amondment made nursuant to this

<u>keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this</u>
<u>subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require</u>

840 <u>the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission</u>841 in any such certificate.

Sec. 11. Subsection (c) of section 9-391 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*1, 2026):

(c) (1) Each endorsement of a candidate to run in a primary for the nomination of candidates for a municipal office to be voted upon at a state election shall be made under the provisions of section 9-390 not earlier than the eighty-fourth day or later than the seventy-seventh day preceding the day of such primary. Each certification to be filed under this subsection shall be received by the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day after the close of the town 852 committee meeting, caucus or convention, as the case may be. If such a 853 certificate of a party's endorsement is not received by the Secretary of 854 the State by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party, 855 for the purposes of sections 9-417 and 9-418, shall be deemed to have 856 neither made nor certified any endorsement of any candidate for such 857 office. The candidate so endorsed for a municipal office to be voted upon 858 at a state election, other than the office of justice of the peace, shall file 859 with the Secretary of the State a certificate, signed by that candidate, 860 stating that such candidate was so endorsed, the candidate's name as 861 the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full 862 street address and the title and district of the office for which the 863 candidate was endorsed. Such certificate may be filed by a candidate 864 whose name appears upon the last-completed enrollment list of such 865 party within the senatorial district within which the candidate is 866 endorsed to run for nomination in the case of the municipal office of 867 state senator, or the assembly district within which the candidate is 868 endorsed to run for nomination in the case of the municipal office of 869 state representative, or the municipality or political subdivision within 870 which the candidate is to run for nomination for other municipal offices 871 to be voted on at a state election. Such certificate shall be attested by 872 either the chairperson or presiding officer or the secretary of the town 873 committee, caucus or convention which made such endorsement. The 874 endorsement of any candidate for the office of justice of the peace shall 875 be certified to the clerk of the municipality by either the chairperson or 876 presiding officer or the secretary of the town committee, caucus or 877 convention, and shall contain the name and street address of each 878 candidate so endorsed and the title of the office for which each such 879 candidate is endorsed. Such certification shall be made on a form 880 prescribed by the Secretary of the State or on such other form as may 881 comply with the provisions of this subsection.

882 (2) (A) In the case of a timely filed certificate of a party's endorsement

883 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, which contains an error

candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of

884 or omission that would operate to invalidate such endorsement, the

885

886 such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in 887 person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock 888 p.m. on the nineteenth day after the close of the town committee 889 meeting, caucus or convention, as applicable, and amending such 890 certificate to make such correction. If such candidate or individual does 891 not appear to so amend such certificate by such time, such certificate 892 shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of sections 9-417 and 9-893 418, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified such 894 endorsement. 895 (B) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in

subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, amend a timely filed certificate of
 a party's endorsement to correct any such error or omission, and shall
 keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this
 subparagraph. Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed to
 require the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or
 omission in any such certificate.

902 Sec. 12. Section 9-400 of the general statutes is repealed and the 903 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

904 (a) A candidacy for nomination by a political party to a state office 905 may be filed by or on behalf of any person whose name appears upon 906 the last-completed enrollment list of such party in any municipality 907 within the state and who has either (1) received at least fifteen per cent 908 of the votes of the convention delegates present and voting on any roll-909 call vote taken on the endorsement or proposed endorsement of a 910 candidate for such state office, whether or not the party-endorsed 911 candidate for such office received a unanimous vote on the last ballot, 912 or (2) circulated a petition and obtained the signatures of at least two 913 per cent of the enrolled members of such party in the state, in accordance 914 with the provisions of sections 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive. Candidacies 915 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be filed by 916 submitting to the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock p.m. 917 on the fourteenth day following the close of the state convention, a 918 certificate, signed by such candidate and attested by either (A) the

919 chairman or presiding officer, or (B) the secretary of the convention, that 920 such candidate received at least fifteen per cent of such votes, and that 921 such candidate consents to be a candidate in a primary of such party for 922 such state office. Such certificate shall specify the candidate's name as 923 the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full 924 residence address and the title of the office for which the candidacy is 925 being filed. If such certificate for a state office is not received by the 926 Secretary of the State by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and 927 such person, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be 928 deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy for nomination 929 by a political party [for] to such state office. A single such certificate or 930 petition for state office may be filed on behalf of two or more candidates 931 for different state offices who consent to have their names appear on a 932 single row of the primary ballot under subsection (b) of section 9-437. 933 Candidacies described in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be filed 934 by submitting said petition not later than four o'clock p.m. on the sixty-935 third day preceding the day of the primary for such office to the registrar 936 of voters of the towns in which the respective petition pages were 937 circulated. Each registrar shall file each page of such petition with the 938 Secretary of the State in accordance with the provisions of section 9-404c. 939 A petition filed by or on behalf of a candidate for state office shall be 940 invalid for such candidate if such candidate is certified as the party-941 endorsed candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended by this act, 942 or as receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote for such 943 office pursuant to this subsection. Except as provided in section 9-416a, 944 upon the expiration of the time period for party endorsement and 945 circulation and tabulation of petitions and signatures, if any, if one or 946 more candidacies for such state office have been filed pursuant to the 947 provisions of this section, the Secretary of the State shall notify all town 948 clerks and registrars of voters in accordance with the provisions of 949 section 9-433, that a primary for such state office shall be held in each 950 municipality in accordance with the provisions of section 9-415.

(b) A candidacy for nomination by a political party to a district officemay be filed by or on behalf of any person whose name appears upon

953 the last-completed enrollment list of such party within the district the 954 person seeks to represent that is in the office of the Secretary of the State 955 at the end of the last day prior to the convention for the party from 956 which the person seeks nomination and who has either (1) received at 957 least fifteen per cent of the votes of the convention delegates present and 958 voting on any roll-call vote taken on the endorsement or proposed 959 endorsement of a candidate for such district office, whether or not the 960 party-endorsed candidate for such office received a unanimous vote on 961 the last ballot, or (2) circulated a petition and obtained the signatures of 962 at least two per cent of the enrolled members of such party in the district 963 for the district office of representative in Congress, and at least five per 964 cent of the enrolled members of such party in the district for the district 965 offices of state senator, state representative and judge of probate, in 966 accordance with the provisions of sections 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive. 967 Candidacies described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be filed 968 by submitting to the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock 969 p.m. on the fourteenth day following the close of the district convention, 970 a certificate, signed by such candidate and attested by either (A) the 971 chairman or presiding officer, or (B) the secretary of the convention, that 972 such candidate received at least fifteen per cent of such votes, and that 973 the candidate consents to be a candidate in a primary of such party for 974 such district office. Such certificate shall specify the candidate's name as 975 the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full 976 residence address and the title and district of the office for which the 977 candidacy is being filed. If such certificate for a district office is not 978 received by the Secretary of the State by such time, such certificate shall 979 be invalid and such person, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-980 416a, shall be deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy for nomination by a political party [for] to such district office. 981 982 Candidacies described in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be filed 983 by submitting said petition not later than four o'clock p.m. on the sixty-984 third day preceding the day of the primary for such office to the registrar 985 of voters of the towns in which the respective petition pages were circulated. Each registrar shall file each page of such petition with the 986 987 Secretary in accordance with the provisions of section 9-404c. A petition

988 may only be filed by or on behalf of a candidate for the district office of 989 state senator, state representative or judge of probate who is not certified 990 as the party-endorsed candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended 991 by this act, or as receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote 992 for such office pursuant to this subsection. A petition filed by or on 993 behalf of a candidate for the district office of representative in Congress 994 shall be invalid if said candidate is certified as the party-endorsed 995 candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended by this act, or as 996 receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote for such office 997 pursuant to this subsection. Except as provided in section 9-416a, upon 998 the expiration of the time period for party endorsement and circulation 999 and tabulation of petitions and signatures, if any, if one or more 1000 candidacies for such district office have been filed pursuant to the 1001 provisions of this section, the Secretary of the State shall notify all town 1002 clerks within the district, in accordance with the provisions of section 9-1003 433, that a primary for such district office shall be held in each 1004 municipality and each part of a municipality within the district in 1005 accordance with the provisions of section 9-415.

1006 (c) (1) In the case of a timely filed certificate of candidacy for 1007 nomination by a political party pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this 1008 section, which contains an error or omission that would operate to invalidate such candidacy for nomination, the person so certified or an 1009 1010 agent of such person may correct such error or omission by appearing 1011 in person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four 1012 o'clock p.m. on the nineteenth day after the close of the state or district 1013 convention, as applicable, and amending such certificate to make such 1014 correction, provided neither failure of such person to timely file such 1015 certificate pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section nor failure of the chairperson, presiding officer or secretary of the convention to attest 1016 1017 such certificate shall be an error or omission that may be corrected 1018 pursuant to this subsection. If such person or agent does not appear to 1019 so amend such certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid 1020 and such person, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be 1021 deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy for nomination

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1022	by a political party. As used in this subsection, "agent" means an
1022	individual authorized to act on behalf of a person.
1024	(2) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
1025	subdivision (1) of this subsection, amend a timely filed certificate of
1026	candidacy for nomination to correct any such error or omission, and
1027	shall keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this
1028	subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require
1029	the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission
1030	in any such certificate.
1001	
1031	[(c)] (d) For the purposes of this section, the number of enrolled
1032	members of a party shall be determined by the latest enrollment records
1033	in the office of the Secretary of the State prior to the earliest date that
1034	primary petitions were available. The names of electors on the inactive
1035	registry list compiled under section 9-35 shall not be counted for
1036	purposes of computing the number of petition signatures required
1037	under this section, as provided in section 9-35c.
1038	[(d)] (e) On the last day for filing primary petition candidacies in
1039	accordance with the provisions of this section, the office or office
1040	facilities of the registrars of voters shall open not later than one o'clock
1041	p.m., and remain open until at least four o'clock p.m., and such
1042	registrars or the deputy or assistant registrars shall be present.
1043	Sec. 13. Section 9-452 of the general statutes is repealed and the

1044 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

(a) All minor parties nominating candidates for any elective office 1045 shall make such nominations and certify and file a list of such 1046 1047 nominations, as required by this section, not later than the sixty-second 1048 day prior to the day of the election at which such candidates are to be 1049 voted for. A list of nominees in printed or typewritten form that includes 1050 each candidate's name as authorized by each candidate to appear on the 1051 ballot, the signature of each candidate, the full street address of each 1052 candidate and the title and district of the office for which each candidate 1053 is nominated shall be certified by the presiding officer of the committee, 1054 meeting or other authority making such nomination and shall be filed by such presiding officer with the Secretary of the State, in the case of 1055 1056 any state, district or municipal office to be voted upon at a state election, 1057 or with the clerk of the municipality, in the case of any municipal office 1058 to be voted upon at a municipal election, not later than the sixty-second 1059 day prior to the day of the election. The registrars of voters of such 1060 municipality shall promptly verify and correct the names on any such 1061 list filed with him, or the names of nominees forwarded to the clerk of 1062 the municipality by the Secretary of the State, in accordance with the 1063 registry list of such municipality and endorse the same as having been 1064 so verified and corrected. For purposes of this section, a list of 1065 nominations shall be deemed to be filed when it is received by the 1066 Secretary of the State or clerk of the municipality, as appropriate. If such 1067 certificate of a party's nomination is not received by the Secretary of the 1068 State or clerk of the municipality, as appropriate, by such time, such 1069 certificate shall be invalid and such party, for purposes of sections 9-460, 1070 9-461 and 9-462, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified any 1071 nomination of any candidate for such office. A candidacy for 1072 nomination by a minor party to a district or municipal office may be 1073 filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the last-completed registry list of the district or municipality represented by such office, as 1074 1075 the case may be. A candidacy for nomination by a minor party to a state 1076 office may be filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the 1077 last-completed registry list of the state.

1078 (b) (1) In the case of a timely filed certificate of nomination for any 1079 state, district or municipal office to be voted upon at a state election 1080 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, which contains an error or 1081 omission that would operate to invalidate such nomination, the 1082 candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of 1083 such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in 1084 person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock p.m. on the fifty-seventh day prior to the day of the election and 1085 1086 amending such certificate to make such correction, provided neither

1087	failure of the presiding officer of the committee, meeting or other
1088	authority to timely file such certificate pursuant to subsection (a) of this
1089	section nor failure of the candidate to sign such certificate shall be an
1090	error or omission that may be corrected pursuant to this subsection. If
1091	such candidate or individual does not appear to so amend such
1092	certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party,
1093	for the purposes of sections 9-460, 9-461 and 9-462, shall be deemed to
1094	have neither made nor certified any such nomination.
1095	(2) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
1096	subdivision (1) of this subsection, amend a timely filed certificate of
1097	nomination to correct any such error or omission, and shall keep a
1098	record of any such amendment made pursuant to this subdivision.

1099 Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require the Secretary

1100 <u>to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission in any such</u>1101 certificate.

Sec. 14. Subsection (d) of section 9-404b of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1105 (d) Each circulator of a primary petition page shall be an enrolled 1106 party member of a municipality in this state. Each petition page shall 1107 contain a statement signed by the registrar of the municipality in which 1108 the circulator is an enrolled party member attesting that the circulator is 1109 an enrolled party member in the municipality. Unless such a statement 1110 by the registrar of voters appears on each page so submitted, the 1111 Secretary shall reject the page. Each separate page of the petition shall 1112 contain a statement as to the authenticity of the signatures on the page 1113 and the number of such signatures, and shall be signed under the 1114 penalties of false statement by the person who circulated the page, 1115 setting forth the circulator's address and the town in which the 1116 circulator is an enrolled party member and attesting that each person whose name appears on the page signed the petition in person in the 1117 1118 presence of the circulator, that the circulator either knows each such 1119 signer or that the signer satisfactorily identified himself or herself to the

1120 circulator and that the spaces for candidates supported, offices sought 1121 and the political party involved were filled in prior to the obtaining of 1122 the signatures. Each separate page of the petition shall also be 1123 acknowledged before an appropriate person as provided in section 1-1124 29. The Secretary shall reject any page of a petition filed with the 1125 Secretary which does not contain such a statement by the circulator as 1126 to the authenticity of the signatures on the page, or upon which the 1127 statement of the circulator is incomplete in any respect, or which does 1128 not contain the certification required under this section by the registrar 1129 of the town in which the circulator is an enrolled party member. No 1130 person who has been convicted of a crime under this title shall circulate 1131 any page of a primary petition during such person's period of probation 1132 or parole, and for a period of twelve years after such person's release 1133 from confinement, probation or parole, and the Secretary shall reject for 1134 filing any such page that was circulated in violation of such prohibition. 1135 Any individual proposed as a candidate in any primary petition may 1136 serve as a circulator of the pages of the petition, provided the 1137 individual's service as circulator does not violate any provision of this 1138 section.

Sec. 15. Subsection (c) of section 9-410 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1142 (c) Each circulator of a primary petition page shall be an enrolled 1143 party member of a municipality in this state who is entitled to vote. Each 1144 petition page shall contain a statement signed by the registrar of the 1145 municipality in which such circulator is an enrolled party member 1146 attesting that the circulator is an enrolled party member in such 1147 municipality. Unless such a statement by the registrar appears on each 1148 page so submitted, the registrar shall reject such page. No candidate for 1149 the nomination of a party for a municipal office or the position of town 1150 committee member shall circulate any petition for another candidate or 1151 another group of candidates contained in one primary petition for the 1152 nomination of such party for the same office or position, and any

1153 petition page circulated in violation of this provision shall be rejected by 1154 the registrar. No person shall circulate petitions for more than the 1155 maximum number of candidates to be nominated by a party for the 1156 same office or position, and any petition page circulated in violation of 1157 this provision shall be rejected by the registrar. Each separate sheet of 1158 such petition shall contain a statement as to the authenticity of the 1159 signatures thereon and the number of such signatures, and shall be 1160 signed under the penalties of false statement by the person who 1161 circulated the same, setting forth such circulator's address and the town 1162 in which such circulator is an enrolled party member and attesting that 1163 each person whose name appears on such sheet signed the same in person in the presence of such circulator, that the circulator either knows 1164 1165 each such signer or that the signer satisfactorily identified the signer to 1166 the circulator and that the spaces for candidates supported, offices or 1167 positions sought and the political party involved were filled in prior to 1168 the obtaining of the signatures. Each separate sheet of such petition shall 1169 also be acknowledged before an appropriate person as provided in 1170 section 1-29. Any sheet of a petition filed with the registrar which does 1171 not contain such a statement by the circulator as to the authenticity of 1172 the signatures thereon, or upon which the statement of the circulator is 1173 incomplete in any respect, or which does not contain the certification 1174 hereinbefore required by the registrar of the town in which the 1175 circulator is an enrolled party member, shall be rejected by the registrar. 1176 No person who has been convicted of a crime under this title shall 1177 circulate any page of a primary petition during such person's period of 1178 probation or parole, and for a period of twelve years after such person's 1179 release from confinement, probation or parole, and the registrar shall 1180 reject for filing any such page that was circulated in violation of such 1181 prohibition. Any individual proposed as a candidate in any primary 1182 petition may serve as a circulator of the pages of such petition, provided 1183 such individual's service as circulator does not violate any provision of 1184 this section.

1185 Sec. 16. Section 9-453e of the general statutes is repealed and the 1186 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

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1187	(a) Each circulator of a nominating petition page shall be a United		
1188	States citizen, at least eighteen years of age and a resident of a town in		
1189	this state and shall not be on parole for conviction of a felony. Any		
1190	individual proposed as a candidate in any nominating petition may		
1191	serve as circulator of the pages of such nominating petition.		
1192	(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,		
1193	no person who has been convicted of a crime under this title shall		
1194	circulate any page of a nominating petition during such person's period		
1195	of probation or parole, and for a period of twelve years after such		
1196	person's release from confinement, probation or parole. The appropriate		
1197	town clerk or the Secretary of the State, as applicable under section 9-		
1198	453i, shall reject for filing any such page that was circulated in violation		
1199	of such prohibition.		
1000			
1200	Sec. 17. Section 9-453j of the general statutes is repealed and the		
1201	following is substituted in lieu thereof (<i>Effective from passage</i>):		
1202	Each page of a nominating petition submitted to the town clerk or the		
1203	Secretary of the State and filed with the Secretary of the State under the		
1204	provisions of sections 9-453a to 9-453s, inclusive, or section 9-216 shall		
1205	contain a statement as to the residency in this state and eligibility of the		
1206	circulator and authenticity of the signatures thereon, signed under		
1207	penalties of false statement, by the person who circulated the same. Such		
1208	statement shall set forth (1) such circulator's residence address,		
1209	including the town in this state in which such circulator is a resident, (2)		
1210	the circulator's date of birth and that the circulator is at least eighteen		
1211	years of age, (3) that the circulator is a United States citizen and [not]		
1212	<u>neither (A)</u> on parole for conviction of a felony <u>, nor (B) on probation or</u>		
1213	parole for conviction of a crime under this title or within twelve years of		
1214	release from confinement, probation or parole due to such a conviction		
1215	under this subparagraph, and (4) that each person whose name appears		
1216	on such page signed the same in person in the presence of such		
1217	circulator and that either the circulator knows each such signer or that		
1218	the signer satisfactorily identified himself to the circulator. Any false		
1219	statement committed with respect to such statement shall be deemed to		
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1220 have been committed in the town in which the petition was circulated.

Sec. 18. Subsection (k) of section 9-140 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(k) (1) (<u>A</u>) A person shall register with the town clerk before
distributing five or more absentee ballot applications for an election,
primary or referendum, not including applications distributed to such
person's immediate family. Such requirement shall not apply to a person
who is the designee of an applicant.

(B) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this
subdivision, no person who has been convicted of a crime under this
title shall distribute any absentee ballot application during such person's
period of probation or parole, and for a period of twelve years after such
person's release from confinement, probation or parole. The town clerk
shall reject for filing any absentee ballot application that was distributed
in violation of such prohibition.

(2) Any person who distributes absentee ballot applications shall
maintain a list of the names and addresses of prospective absentee ballot
applicants who receive such applications, and shall file such list with
the town clerk prior to the date of the primary, election or referendum
for which the applications were so distributed. Any person who
distributes absentee ballot applications and receives an executed
application shall forthwith file the application with the town clerk.

1243 Sec. 19. Section 9-250 of the general statutes is repealed and the 1244 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

(a) Ballots shall be printed in plain clear type and on material of such
size as will fit the tabulator, and shall be furnished by the registrar of
voters. The size and style of the type used to print the name of a political
party on a ballot shall be identical with the size and style of the type
used to print the names of all other political parties appearing on such
ballot. The name of each major party candidate for a municipal office, as

1251 defined in section 9-372, except for the municipal offices of state senator 1252 and state representative, shall appear on the ballot as authorized by each 1253 candidate. The name of each major party candidate for a state or district 1254 office, as defined in section 9-372, or for the municipal office of state 1255 senator or state representative shall appear on the ballot as it appears on 1256 the certificate or statement of consent filed under section 9-388, as 1257 amended by this act, subsection (b) of section 9-391, or section 9-400, as 1258 amended by this act, or 9-409. The name of each minor party candidate 1259 shall appear on the ballot as authorized by each candidate. The name of 1260 each nominating petition candidate shall appear on the ballot as it is 1261 verified by the town clerk on the application filed under section 9-453b. The size and style of the type used to print the name of a candidate on a 1262 1263 ballot shall be identical with the size and style of the type used to print 1264 the names of all other candidates appearing on such ballot. Such ballot shall contain the names of the offices and the names of the candidates 1265 1266 arranged thereon. The names of the political parties and party 1267 designations shall be arranged on the ballots and followed by the word 1268 "party", either in columns or horizontal rows as set forth in section 9-1269 249a, immediately adjacent to the column or row occupied by the 1270 candidate or candidates of such political party or organization. The 1271 ballot shall be printed in such manner as to indicate how many 1272 candidates the elector may vote for each office, provided in the case of a 1273 town adopting the provisions of section 9-204a, such ballot shall indicate 1274 the maximum number of candidates who may be elected to such office 1275 from any party. If two or more candidates are to be elected to the same 1276 office for different terms, the term for which each is nominated shall be 1277 printed on the official ballot as a part of the title of the office. If, at any 1278 election, one candidate is to be elected for a full term and another to fill 1279 a vacancy, the official ballot containing the names of the candidates in 1280 the foregoing order shall, as a part of the title of the office, designate the 1281 term which such candidates are severally nominated to fill. No column, 1282 under the name of any political party or independent organization, shall 1283 be printed on any official ballot, which contains more candidates for any 1284 office than the number for which an elector may vote for that office.

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1285	(b) Not later than ten days prior to the commencement of the period	
1286	of early voting at an election, the registrars of voters of each	
1287	municipality shall file with the Secretary of the State, for each voting	
1288	district in such municipality, the official ballot to be used for such voting	
1289	district. No such official ballot shall be used at any election unless it has	
1290	been approved by the Secretary of the State.	
1291	Sec. 20. Subsection (j) of section 9-437 of the general statutes is	
1292	repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (<i>Effective January</i>	
1293	1, 2026):	
1294	(j) (1) All ballots used at a primary shall be prepared by the clerk of	
1295	the municipality in which such primary is held and shall be printed at	
1296	the expense of the municipality. Not later than ten days prior to the	
1297	commencement of the period of early voting at a primary, such clerk	
1298	shall file with the Secretary of the State, for each voting district in such	
1299		
1300		
1301	it has been approved by the Secretary of the State.	
1302	(2) Each municipality shall provide for all polling places:	
1303	[(1)] (A) At least forty-eight hours before the primary, such clerk shall	
1304	have sample ballots for general distribution, which shall contain the	
1305	offices or positions and names of candidates to be voted upon. Each such	
1306	sample ballot shall also include printed instructions approved by the	
1307	Secretary of the State concerning the use of the voting tabulator and	
1308	information concerning the date of the primary and the hours during	
1309	which polling places will be open. Such clerk shall have available for	
1310	distribution such number of sample ballots as such clerk deems	
1311	advisable, but in no event less than three which shall be posted inside	
1312	the polling place so as to be visible to those within the polling place	
1313	during the whole day of the primary. At least one of such sample ballots	
1314	shall be posted so as to be visible to an elector being instructed on the	

1315 demonstrator device, pursuant to section 9-260. If paper ballots are used1316 in any primary, such sample paper ballots shall be overprinted with the

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1317	word "Sample";	
1318	[(2)] (B) Instructions on how to cast a provisional ballot, as prescribed	
1319	by the Secretary of the State;	
1320	[(3)] (C) Instructions for mail-in registrants and first-time voters who	
1321	register to vote by mail on or after January 1, 2003, as prescribed by the	
1322	Secretary of the State;	
1323	[(4)] (D) General information concerning voting rights under federal	
1324	and Connecticut laws, including information on the right of an	
1325	individual to cast a provisional ballot and instructions on how to contact	
1326	the appropriate officials if such rights are alleged to have been violated,	
1327	as prescribed by the Secretary of the State; and	
1328	[(5)] (E) General information on federal and state laws concerning	
1329	prohibitions on acts of fraud and misrepresentation, as prescribed by	
1330	the Secretary of the State.	
1331	Sec. 21. Subsection (a) of section 9-135a of the general statutes is	
1332	repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective January	
1333	1, 2026):	
1334	(a) Each absentee ballot shall be arranged to resemble the appropriate	
1335	ballot and sample ballot as prescribed by law, and shall include, as	
1336	applicable, the offices, party designations, names of candidates and	
1337	questions to be voted upon and spaces for write-in votes. A replica of	
1338	the state seal shall be printed on the ballot. The size, type, form,	
1339	instructions, specifications for paper and printing and other	
1340	specifications shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the State. Prior to	
1341	printing such absentee ballots pursuant to this section, the clerk of the	
1342	municipality shall file with the Secretary of the State, for each voting	
1343	district in such municipality, the absentee ballot to be used for such	
1344	voting district. No such absentee ballot shall be used at any election or	
1345	primary unless it has been approved by the Secretary of the State.	
1346	Sec. 22. Section 9-135b of the general statutes is repealed and the	

1347 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

1348 (a) Immediately after the deadline for certification of all candidates 1349 whose names are to appear on the ballot, and in sufficient time to begin 1350 issuing absentee ballots on the day prescribed by law, the municipal 1351 clerk shall prepare the absentee ballots and have them printed. Prior to 1352 printing such ballots, the registrars of voters of the municipality may 1353 provide comments concerning the content and form of such ballots to 1354 the clerk, provided no such ballot shall be printed unless the Secretary of the State has approved of such ballot in accordance with section 9-1355

1356 <u>135a, as amended by this act</u>.

(b) A layout model of each different absentee ballot shall be available
for public inspection at the clerk's office prior to printing. The model
shall indicate the type face to be used, the spelling and placement of
names and other information to be printed on the ballots.

1361 (c) Immediately upon receiving the printed absentee ballots, the 1362 municipal clerk shall file one with the Secretary of the State or, if there 1363 are different ballots for different political subdivisions, one ballot for 1364 each subdivision. The clerk shall also file his affidavit with the Secretary, 1365 stating the number of ballots printed. The form of affidavit shall be prescribed by the Secretary. If any correction or alteration is 1366 1367 subsequently made on any absentee ballot the clerk shall immediately 1368 file a corrected or altered ballot and, using the prescribed form, his 1369 affidavit stating the number of such ballots printed, with the Secretary.

1370 (d) If a vacancy in candidacy occurs after the ballots have been 1371 printed, the clerk may either reprint the ballots or cause printed stickers 1372 to be affixed to them so that the name of any candidate who has vacated 1373 his candidacy is deleted and the name of any candidate chosen to fill the 1374 vacancy as provided in section 9-428 or section 9-460 appears in the 1375 same position as that in which the vacated candidacy appeared except 1376 as provided in section 9-426 or 9-453s. If no candidate is chosen to fill 1377 such vacancy as so provided, the clerk shall cause the name of the 1378 candidate whose candidacy has been vacated to be obscured in such 1379 manner that such name is no longer visible.

(e) [The] Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the Secretary of the State [shall examine each absentee ballot required to be filed pursuant to this section and if a ballot contains an omission or error, the Secretary shall order] <u>from ordering</u> the municipal clerk to reprint a corrected absentee ballot or to take such other action as the Secretary may deem appropriate <u>in the case of an absentee ballot that</u> <u>contains an omission or error</u>.

1387 Sec. 23. Section 9-256 of the general statutes is repealed and the 1388 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

1389 The registrars of voters of each municipality shall, not less than ten 1390 days prior to the commencement of the period of early voting at an 1391 election, file with the Secretary of the State a sample ballot identical with those to be provided for each polling place under section 9-255. The 1392 1393 Secretary of the State shall examine the sample ballot required to be filed 1394 under this section, and if such sample ballot contains an error, the 1395 Secretary of the State shall order] Notwithstanding the provisions of 1396 subsection (b) of section 9-250, as amended by this act, the Secretary of 1397 the State may order the registrars of voters to reprint a corrected 1398 [sample] ballot or to take other such action as the Secretary may deem 1399 appropriate in the case of any ballot that contains an omission or error.

Sec. 24. Subsection (a) of section 9-140b of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) An absentee ballot shall be cast at a primary, election or
referendum only if: (1) It is mailed by (A) the ballot applicant, (B) a
designee of a person who applies for an absentee ballot because of
illness or physical disability, or (C) a member of the immediate family
of an applicant who is a student, so that it is received by the clerk of the
municipality in which the applicant is qualified to vote not later than the
close of the polls; (2) it is returned by the applicant in person to the clerk

1410 by the day before [a regular election, special] the election or primary or 1411 prior to the opening of the polls on the day of [a] the referendum; (3) it 1412 is returned by a designee of an ill or physically disabled ballot applicant, 1413 in person, to said clerk not later than the close of the polls on the day of 1414 the election, primary or referendum; (4) it is returned by a member of 1415 the immediate family of the absentee voter, in person, to said clerk not 1416 later than the close of the polls on the day of the election, primary or 1417 referendum; (5) in the case of a presidential or overseas ballot, it is 1418 mailed or otherwise returned pursuant to the provisions of section 9-1419 158g; or (6) it is returned with the proper identification as required by 1420 the Help America Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from time to time, 1421 if applicable, inserted in the outer envelope so such identification can be 1422 viewed without opening the inner envelope. A person returning an 1423 absentee ballot to the municipal clerk pursuant to subdivision (3) or (4) 1424 of this subsection shall present identification and, on the outer envelope 1425 of the absentee ballot, sign his name in the presence of the municipal 1426 clerk, and indicate his address, his relationship to the voter or his 1427 position, and the date and time of such return. As used in this section, "immediate family" means a dependent relative who resides in the 1428 1429 individual's household or any spouse, child, parent or sibling of the 1430 individual.

1431 Sec. 25. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There shall be, in any municipality 1432 with a population of at least one hundred forty thousand, an election 1433 monitor for the municipal election in 2025 and the state election in 2026 to detect and prevent irregularity and impropriety in the management 1434 1435 of election administration procedures and the conduct of said elections 1436 in such municipality. The office of the Secretary of the State shall 1437 contract with one or more individuals to serve in such capacity as 1438 election monitor until December 31, 2026, unless such contract is 1439 terminated for any reason by the Secretary of the State prior to said date. 1440 Such election monitor shall: (1) Not be considered a state employee; (2) 1441 be compensated in accordance with such contract; and (3) be 1442 reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his 1443 or her duties. Costs related to the service of such election monitor shall

be paid from moneys appropriated to the Secretary for such purpose.
Any such municipality shall provide for such election monitor any office
space, supplies, equipment and services necessary to properly carry out
the duties and responsibilities of the position. As used in this section,
"population" means the estimated number of people according to the
most recent version of the State Register and Manual prepared pursuant
to section 3-90 of the general statutes.

1451 (b) An election monitor appointed under subsection (a) of this section 1452 shall: (1) Oversee the municipal primary and election in 2025 in such 1453 municipality, including, but not limited to, absentee ballots, early 1454 voting, same-day election registration and voting at polling places on 1455 the days of the primary and the election; (2) oversee the state primary 1456 and election in 2026 in such municipality, including, but not limited to, 1457 absentee ballots, early voting, same-day election registration and voting 1458 at polling places on the days of the primary and the election; (3) oversee 1459 each special election in 2025 and 2026, if any; (4) conduct inspections, 1460 inquiries and investigations relating to any duty or responsibility under 1461 title 9 of the general statutes to be carried out by any official of the 1462 municipality or appointee of such official; (5) have access to all records, 1463 data and material maintained by or available to any such official or 1464 appointee; (6) issue periodic reports on a schedule agreed to by the 1465 Secretary of the State; and (7) immediately report to the Secretary any 1466 irregularity or impropriety in the performance of any duty or 1467 responsibility under title 9 of the general statutes to be carried out by 1468 any official of the municipality or appointee of such official. Nothing in 1469 this section shall be construed to prohibit the State Elections 1470 Enforcement Commission from taking any action authorized under 1471 section 9-7b of the general statutes.

(c) The Secretary of the State shall, using moneys appropriated
pursuant to this section, develop and conduct a town-wide bilingual
public awareness campaign in such municipality to educate members of
the public regarding title 9 of the general statutes and such members'
rights thereunder.

1477 Sec. 26. Section 9-3 of the general statutes is repealed and the 1478 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1479 (a) The Secretary of the State, by virtue of the office, shall be the 1480 Commissioner of Elections of the state, with such powers and duties 1481 relating to the conduct of elections as are prescribed by law and, unless 1482 otherwise provided by state statute, the Secretary's regulations, 1483 declaratory rulings, instructions and opinions, if in written form, and 1484 any order issued under subsection (b) of this section, shall be presumed 1485 as correctly interpreting and effectuating the administration of elections 1486 and primaries under this title, except for chapters 155 to 158, inclusive, 1487 and shall be executed, carried out or implemented, as the case may be, 1488 provided nothing in this section shall be construed to alter the right of 1489 appeal provided under the provisions of chapter 54. Any such written 1490 instruction or opinion shall be labeled as an instruction or opinion 1491 issued pursuant to this section, as applicable, and any such instruction 1492 or opinion shall cite any authority that is discussed in such instruction 1493 or opinion.

1494 (b) During any municipal, state or federal election, primary or 1495 recanvass, or any audit conducted pursuant to section 9-320f, as 1496 amended by this act, the Secretary of the State may issue an order, 1497 whether orally or in writing, to any registrar of voters or moderator to 1498 correct any irregularity or impropriety in the conduct of such election, 1499 primary or recanvass or audit. Any such order shall be effective upon 1500 issuance. As soon as practicable after issuance of an oral order pursuant 1501 to this subsection, the Secretary shall reduce such order to writing, cite 1502 within such order any applicable provision of law authorizing such 1503 order and cause a copy of such written order to be delivered to the 1504 individual who is the subject of such order or, in the case that such order 1505 was originally issued in writing, issue a subsequent written order that 1506 conforms to such requirements. The Superior Court, on application of 1507 the Secretary or the Attorney General, may enforce by appropriate 1508 decree or process any such order issued pursuant to this subsection.

1509 (c) Whenever, during the ninety days preceding the day of an election

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1510	or primary, one or more electors have alleged aggrievement under this	
1511	title, the Secretary of the State may commence a declaratory judgment	
1512	action under section 52-29 for a determination as to whether such elector	
1513	or electors have been so aggrieved and for an order to ensure election	
1514	administration procedures are properly executed and electors' rights are	
1515	adequately protected under this title.	
1516	Sec. 27. Subsection (d) of section 9-150a of the general statutes is	
1517	repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (<i>Effective July 1,</i>	
1518	2026):	
1519	(d) (1) If the statement on the inner envelope has not been signed as	
1520	required by section 9-140a, such inner envelope shall not be opened or	
1521	the ballot removed therefrom, and such inner envelope shall be replaced	
1522	in the opened outer envelope which shall be marked "Rejected" and the	
1523	reason therefor endorsed thereon by the counters. <u>The moderator shall</u>	
1524	maintain a log of each absentee ballot applicant whose ballot was	
1525	marked "Rejected" under this subdivision and include thereon for each	
1526	such applicant the reason for the rejection. The moderator shall transmit	
1527	such log to the Secretary of the State at the same time and in the same	
1528	manner as the duplicate list to be transmitted to the Secretary by	
1529	electronic means in accordance with section 9-314.	
1530	(2) If such statement is signed but the individual completing the	
1531	ballot is an individual described in subsection (a) of section 9-23r and	
1532	has not met the requirements of subsection (e) of section 9-23r, the	
1533	counters shall replace the ballot in the opened inner envelope, replace	
1534	the inner envelope in the opened outer envelope and mark "Rejected as	
1535	an Absentee Ballot" and endorse the reason for such rejection on the	
1536	outer envelope, and the ballot shall be treated as a provisional ballot for	
1537	federal offices only, pursuant to sections 9-232i to 9-232o, inclusive. <u>The</u>	
1538	moderator shall maintain a log of each absentee ballot applicant whose	
1539	ballot was marked "Rejected as an Absentee Ballot" under this	
1540	subdivision and include thereon for each such applicant the reason for	
1541	the rejection. The moderator shall transmit such log to the Secretary of	
1542	the State at the same time and in the same manner as the duplicate list	

sHB 7228Amendment1543to be transmitted to the Secretary by electronic means in accordance1544with section 9-314.1545Sec. 28. Subsection (a) of section 9-311 of the general statutes is

repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*1547 1, 2026):

1548 (a) If, within three days after an election, it appears to the moderator 1549 that there is a discrepancy in the returns of any voting district, such 1550 moderator shall forthwith within said period summon, by written 1551 notice delivered personally, the recanvass officials, consisting of at least 1552 two checkers of different political parties and at least two absentee ballot 1553 counters of different political parties who served at such election, and 1554 the registrars of voters of the municipality in which the election was 1555 held and such other officials as may be required to conduct such 1556 recanvass. Such written notice shall require the clerk or registrars of 1557 voters, as the case may be, to bring with them the depository envelopes 1558 required by section 9-150a, as amended by this act, the package of write-1559 in ballots provided for in section 9-310, the absentee ballot applications, 1560 the list of absentee ballot applications, the registry list and the 1561 moderators' returns and shall require such recanvass officials to meet at 1562 a specified time not later than the fifth business day after such election 1563 to recanvass the returns of [a] <u>each</u> voting tabulator [or voting tabulators 1564 or] and all absentee ballots [or] and write-in ballots used in [such 1565 district] the municipality in such election. If any of such recanvass 1566 officials are unavailable at the time of the recanvass, the registrar of 1567 voters of the same political party as that of the recanvass official unable 1568 to attend shall designate another elector having previous training and 1569 experience in the conduct of elections to take his place. Before such 1570 recanvass is made, such moderator shall give notice, in writing, to the 1571 chairperson of the town committee of each political party which 1572 nominated candidates for the election, and, in the case of a state election, 1573 not later than twenty-four hours after a determination is made 1574 regarding the need for a recanvass to the Secretary of the State, of the 1575 time and place where such recanvass is to be made; and each such 1576 chairperson may send party representatives to be present at such 1577 recanvass. Such party representatives may observe, but no one other 1578 than a recanvass official may take part in the recanvass. If any 1579 irregularity in the recanvass procedure is noted by such a party 1580 representative, he shall be permitted to present evidence of such 1581 irregularity in any contest relating to the election.

Sec. 29. Subsection (d) of section 9-311 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*1, 2026):

1585 (d) (1) The moderator may, when any disorder arises that interferes 1586 with the conduct of a recanvass, including any attempt by a person other 1587 than a recanvass official to take part in such recanvass or by such a 1588 person to communicate with a recanvass official, other than the 1589 moderator,] and the offender refuses to submit to the moderator's lawful 1590 authority, order that the offender be removed by the recanvass officials 1591 from such recanvass until the offender conforms to order or, if need be, 1592 until such recanvass is completed.

(2) Each political party or, in the case of an office subject to recanvass
 for which there is more than one candidate from a political party, each
 candidate may appoint one representative to communicate directly with
 the moderator during a recanvass.

1597 Sec. 30. (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not earlier than the sixteenth day 1598 after any state election and not later than two business days before the 1599 canvass of votes by the Secretary of the State, Treasurer and 1600 Comptroller, commencing on a day designated by the Secretary, the 1601 registrars of voters shall conduct a risk-limiting audit of such election. 1602 Each such audit shall be noticed in advance and be open to public observation. Any election official who participates in the administration 1603 1604 and conduct of an audit pursuant to this section shall be compensated 1605 by the municipality at the standard rate of pay established by such 1606 municipality for elections.

1607	(b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, the	
1608	offices subject to a risk-limiting audit pursuant to this section shall be	
1609	(A) the office of presidential elector, if applicable, (B) all applicable state	
1610	offices, as defined in section 9-372 of the general statutes, (C) at least one	
1611	1 representative in Congress, selected in a random drawing by the	
1612	Secretary of the State, (D) at least five per cent, in the aggregate, of the	
1613	offices of state senator and state representative, selected in a random	
1614	4 drawing by the Secretary, and (E) any other office required to be audited	
1615	by federal law. Whenever an office is randomly selected by the Secretary	
1616	under this subsection, the selection process shall be open to the public.	

(2) (A) If an office of representative in Congress is subject to recanvass
or an election contest pursuant to any provision of the general statutes,
the Secretary of the State shall ensure such office is included in the office
or offices selected under subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of this
subsection.

(B) If an office of state senator or state representative is subject to
recanvass or an election contest pursuant to any provision of the general
statutes, the Secretary of the State shall ensure such office is included in
the offices selected under subparagraph (D) of subdivision (1) of this
subsection.

(c) Prior to the day designated by the Secretary of the State for the
commencement of the risk-limiting audit described in subsection (a) of
this section, the registrars of voters shall submit to the Secretary the
ballot manifests created under section 32 of this act.

1631 (d) The risk-limiting audit described in subsection (a) of this section 1632 shall be conducted in accordance with instructions and procedures 1633 prescribed by the Secretary of the State not later than March 1, 2026, 1634 which instructions and procedures shall be consistent across all offices 1635 subject to such audit. The risk limit for each such audit shall be not more 1636 than five per cent. The results of each audit conducted pursuant to this 1637 section, including any such audit that produces an outcome of 1638 "INCONCLUSIVE" as described in subsection (e) of this section, shall be

1639 reported on a form and in a manner prescribed by the Secretary. Such 1640 reported results shall be filed with the Secretary, who shall immediately 1641 forward such reported results to The University of Connecticut for 1642 analysis. The University of Connecticut shall submit to the Secretary a 1643 written report regarding such analysis that describes any concerns 1644 identified. After receipt of such written report, the Secretary shall 1645 transmit a copy of such written report to the State Elections Enforcement 1646 Commission.

(e) In the event a risk-limiting audit conducted pursuant to this
section for a particular office produces an outcome of
"INCONCLUSIVE", the Secretary of the State shall order a manual
recount of all ballots cast for such office.

1651 (f) If the written report submitted by The University of Connecticut 1652 under subsection (d) of this section indicates that a voting tabulator 1653 failed to record votes accurately and in the manner provided by title 9 1654 of the general statutes, the Secretary of the State shall require that the 1655 voting tabulator be examined and recertified by the Secretary or the 1656 Secretary's designee. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to 1657 prohibit the Secretary from requiring that a voting tabulator be 1658 examined and recertified.

(g) The audit results reported to the Secretary of the State pursuant to
subsection (d) of this section shall be open to public inspection and may
be used as prima facie evidence of an irregularity in any contest arising
pursuant to chapter 149 of the general statutes or for any other cause of
action arising from such election.

(h) If the audit officials are unable to reconcile the results from an audit described in subsection (a) of this section with the outcome of the person declared elected by virtue of having received the greatest number of votes, as determined by the paper ballots, the Secretary of the State shall conduct such further investigation of the voting tabulator as may be necessary for the purpose of reviewing whether or not to decertify the voting tabulator or tabulators in question or to order the 1671 voting tabulator to be examined and recertified in accordance with 1672 subsection (f) of this section. Any report produced by the Secretary as a 1673 result of such investigation shall be filed with the State Elections 1674 Enforcement Commission, and the commission may initiate such 1675 further investigation in accordance with subdivision (1) of subsection 1676 (a) of section 9-7b of the general statutes as may be required to 1677 determine if any violations of the general statutes concerning election 1678 law have been committed.

(i) The individual paper ballots used at an election shall be carefully
preserved and returned in their designated receptacle in accordance
with the requirements of section 9-266 or 9-310 of the general statutes,
as applicable.

(j) Nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude anycandidate or elector from seeking additional remedies pursuant tochapter 149 of the general statutes.

1686 (k) After a state election, any voting tabulator may be kept locked for 1687 a period longer than that prescribed by sections 9-266, 9-310 and 9-447 1688 of the general statutes, if such an extended period is ordered by a court 1689 of competent jurisdiction, the Secretary of the State or the State Elections Enforcement Commission. Such court or the Secretary of the State may 1690 1691 order an audit of such voting tabulator to be conducted by such persons 1692 as the court or the Secretary may designate, provided the State Elections 1693 Enforcement Commission may order such an audit where the particular 1694 office in question is that of the Secretary of the State. If the machine 1695 utilized in such election is an optical scan voting system, such order to 1696 lock such machine shall include the tabulator, memory card and all 1697 other components and processes utilized in the programming of such 1698 machine.

(l) The Secretary of the State may adopt regulations, in accordance
with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, for the conduct
of risk-limiting audits described in subsection (a) of this section and to
establish guidelines for expanded audits when the results from such a

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1703	risk-limiting audit cannot be reconciled with the outcome of the person		
1704	declared elected by virtue of having received the greatest number of		
1705	votes, as determined by the paper ballots.		
1706	(m) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the		
1707	Secretary of the State shall have access to the code in any voting machine		
1708	whenever any problem is discovered as a result of an audit described in		
1709	subsection (a) of this section.		
1710	(n) As used in this section:		
1711	(1) "Risk-limiting audit" means a publicly verifiable auditing		
1712	procedure that (A) manually examines a statistical sample of paper		
1713	ballots that reflect the intents of the voters having cast such ballots, (B)		
1714	produces an outcome of either "ACCEPTABLE" or "INCONCLUSIVE",		
1715	and (C) guarantees a specified risk limit;		
1716	(2) "Risk limit" means the maximum probability that an audit would		
1717	produce an outcome of "ACCEPTABLE" when there is a disagreement		
1718	between the person declared elected and the person who received the		
1719	greatest number of votes as determined by the paper ballots; and		
1720	(3) "State election" has the same meaning as provided in section 9-1		
1721	of the general statutes.		
1722	Sec. 31. Section 9-320f of the general statutes is repealed and the		
1723	following is substituted in lieu thereof (<i>Effective January 1, 2026</i>):		
1724	(a) (1) Not earlier than the fifteenth day after any federal or state		
1725	[election or] primary and not later than two business days before the		
1726	canvass of votes by the Secretary of the State, Treasurer and		
1727	Comptroller, and (2) not earlier than the fifth day after any municipal		
1728	election or primary and not later than two business days before the		
1729	canvass of votes by the town clerk, the registrars of voters shall conduct		
1730	a manual audit, or an electronic audit authorized under section 9-320g,		
1731	as amended by this act, of the votes recorded in not less than five per		
1732	cent of the voting districts in the state, district or municipality,		

1733 whichever is applicable. For the purposes of this section, any central location used in a municipality for the counting of absentee ballots, early 1734 1735 voting ballots or same-day election registration ballots shall be deemed 1736 a voting district. Such manual or electronic audit shall be noticed in 1737 advance and be open to public observation. Any election official who 1738 participates in the administration and conduct of an audit pursuant to 1739 this section shall be compensated by the municipality at the standard 1740 rate of pay established by such municipality for elections or primaries, 1741 as the case may be.

1742 (b) The voting districts subject to an audit described in subsection (a) 1743 of this section shall be selected in a random drawing by the Secretary of 1744 the State and such selection process shall be open to the public. The 1745 offices subject to an audit pursuant to this section shall be, (1) [in the 1746 case of an election where the office of presidential elector is on the ballot, 1747 all offices required to be audited by federal law, plus one additional 1748 office selected in a random drawing by the Secretary of the State, but in 1749 no case less than three offices, (2) in the case of an election where the 1750 office of Governor is on the ballot, all offices required to be audited by 1751 federal law, plus one additional office selected in a random drawing by 1752 the Secretary of the State, but in no case less than three offices, (3) in the 1753 case of a municipal election, three offices or twenty per cent of the 1754 number of offices on the ballot, whichever is greater, selected at random 1755 by the municipal clerk, and [(4)] (2) in the case of a primary, [election,] 1756 all offices required to be audited by federal law, plus one additional 1757 office, if any, but in no event less than twenty per cent of the offices on 1758 the ballot, selected in a random drawing by the municipal clerk.

(c) If a selected voting district has an office that is subject to recanvass
or an election or primary contest pursuant to <u>any provision of</u> the
general statutes, the Secretary <u>of the State</u> shall select an alternative
district, pursuant to the process described in subsection (b) of this
section.

(d) The manual or electronic audit described in subsection (a) of thissection shall consist of the manual or electronic tabulation of the paper

1766 ballots cast and counted by each voting tabulator subject to such audit. 1767 Once complete, the vote totals established pursuant to such manual or 1768 electronic tabulation shall be compared to the results reported by the 1769 voting tabulator on the day of the election or primary. The results of 1770 such manual or electronic tabulation shall be reported on a form 1771 prescribed by the Secretary of the State which shall include the total 1772 number of ballots counted, the total votes received by each candidate in 1773 question, the total votes received by each candidate in question on 1774 ballots that were properly completed by each voter and the total votes 1775 received by each candidate in question on ballots that were not properly 1776 completed by each voter. Such [report] reported results shall be filed 1777 with the Secretary, [of the State] who shall immediately forward such 1778 [report] <u>reported results</u> to The University of Connecticut for analysis. 1779 The University of Connecticut shall [file] submit to the Secretary a 1780 written report [with the Secretary of the State] regarding such analysis 1781 that describes any discrepancies identified. After receipt of such written 1782 report, the Secretary [of the State shall file such report with] shall 1783 transmit a copy of such written report to the State Elections Enforcement 1784 Commission.

(e) For the purposes of this section, a ballot that has not been properly
completed will be deemed to be a ballot on which (1) votes have been
marked by the voter outside the vote targets, (2) votes have been marked
by the voter using a manual marking device that cannot be read by the
voting tabulator, or (3) in the judgment of the registrars of voters, the
voter marked the ballot in such a manner that the voting tabulator may
not have read the marks as votes cast.

(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-311, as amended by this act, the Secretary of the State shall order a discrepancy recanvass of the returns of an election or primary for any office if a discrepancy, as defined in subsection (o) of this section, exists where the margin of victory in the race for such office is less than the amount of the discrepancy multiplied by the total number of voting districts where such race appeared on the ballot, provided in a year in which the Secretary of the State is a candidate for an office on the ballot and that office is subject to an audit as provided by this section, the State Elections Enforcement Commission shall order a discrepancy recanvass if a discrepancy, as defined by subsection (o) of this section, has occurred that could affect the outcome of the election or primary for such office.

1805 (g) If the written report submitted by The University of Connecticut 1806 [report described in] under subsection (d) of this section indicates that a 1807 voting tabulator failed to record votes accurately and in the manner 1808 provided by [the general statutes] this title, the Secretary of the State 1809 shall require that the voting tabulator be examined and recertified by 1810 the Secretary [of the State,] or the Secretary's designee. Nothing in this 1811 subsection shall be construed to prohibit the Secretary [of the State] from 1812 requiring that a voting tabulator be examined and recertified.

(h) The audit [report filed] <u>results reported to the Secretary of the</u>
<u>State</u> pursuant to subsection (d) of this section shall be open to public
inspection and may be used as prima facie evidence of a discrepancy in
any contest arising pursuant to chapter 149 or for any other cause of
action arising from such election or primary.

1818 (i) If the audit officials are unable to reconcile the manual or electronic 1819 count from an audit described in subsection (a) of this section with the 1820 electronic vote tabulation and discrepancies from the election or 1821 primary, the Secretary of the State shall conduct such further 1822 investigation of the voting tabulator malfunction as may be necessary 1823 for the purpose of reviewing whether or not to decertify the voting 1824 tabulator or tabulators in question or to order the voting tabulator to be 1825 examined and recertified [pursuant to] in accordance with subsection 1826 (g) of this section. Any report produced by the Secretary [of the State] as 1827 a result of such investigation shall be filed with the State Elections 1828 Enforcement Commission and the commission may initiate such further 1829 investigation in accordance with subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of 1830 section 9-7b as may be required to determine if any violations of the 1831 general statutes concerning election law have been committed.

(k) Nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude anycandidate or elector from seeking additional remedies pursuant tochapter 149.

1839 (l) After an election or primary described in subsection (a) of this 1840 section, any voting tabulator may be kept locked for a period longer 1841 than that prescribed by sections 9-266, 9-310 and 9-447, if such an 1842 extended period is ordered by [either] a court of competent jurisdiction, 1843 the Secretary of the State or the State Elections Enforcement 1844 Commission. [Either the] Such court or the Secretary [of the State] may 1845 order an audit of such voting tabulator to be conducted by such persons as the court or the Secretary of the State may designate, provided the 1846 1847 State Elections Enforcement Commission may order such an audit 1848 under the circumstances prescribed in subsection (f) of this section. If 1849 the machine utilized in such election or primary is an optical scan voting 1850 system, such order to lock such machine shall include the tabulator, 1851 memory card and all other components and processes utilized in the 1852 programming of such machine.

(m) The Secretary of the State may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, [as may be necessary] for the conduct of the manual or electronic tabulation of the paper ballots described in subsection (a) of this section and to establish guidelines for expanded audits when there are differences between the manual or electronic counts from the audit described in subsection (a) of this section and tabulator counts from the election or primary.

(n) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, the
Secretary of the State shall have access to the code in any voting machine
whenever any problem is discovered as a result of an audit described in
subsection (a) of this section.

1864 (o) As used in this section: [, "discrepancy"]

1865 (1) "Discrepancy" means any difference in vote totals between tabulator counts from an election or primary and manual or electronic 1866 1867 counts from an audit described in subsection (a) of this section in a 1868 voting district that exceeds one-half of one per cent of the lesser amount 1869 of the vote totals between such tabulator counts and such manual or 1870 electronic counts where such differences cannot be resolved through an 1871 accounting of ballots that were not marked properly in accordance with 1872 subsection (e) of this section; [, "state election" means "state election", as 1873 defined in section 9-1, "municipal election"]

1874 (2) "Municipal election" means a municipal election held pursuant to 1875 section 9-164; [, "manual"]

1876 (3) "Manual" means by hand and without the assistance of electronic
1877 equipment; and ["electronic"]

1878 (4) "Electronic" means through the use of equipment described in
1879 section 9-320g, as amended by this act.

Sec. 32. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2026*) (a) Except in the case of a recanvass subject to the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, on the fifteenth day following each state election, as defined in section 9-1 of the general statutes:

(1) The audit officials for each polling place shall create a ballot
manifest for such polling place by manually verifying the number of
ballots cast that comprise the result publicly announced by the
moderator under section 9-309 of the general statutes and recording
such number on such ballot manifest, in accordance with procedures
prescribed by the Secretary of the State; and

(2) The audit officials for each central counting location shall create a
ballot manifest for such central counting location by manually verifying
the number of ballots cast that comprise the result publicly declared by
the moderator under subsection (b) of section 9-150b of the general

statutes and recording such number on such ballot manifest, inaccordance with procedures prescribed by the Secretary of the State.

1896 (b) Not later than twenty-four hours after the completion of any 1897 recanvass conducted at a state election in a voting district, the recanvass 1898 officials shall create a ballot manifest for such district by manually 1899 verifying the number of ballots cast that comprise the vote announced 1900 by the moderator under subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-311 1901 of the general statutes and recording such number on such ballot 1902 manifest, in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Secretary of 1903 the State.

(c) All ballot manifest creation procedures shall be open to publicobservation.

(d) Immediately after a ballot manifest has been created pursuant to
this section, the moderator shall submit such ballot manifest to the
registrars of voters.

(e) The Secretary of the State may adopt regulations, in accordancewith the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to carry out thepurposes of this section.

1912 Sec. 33. Section 9-323 of the general statutes is repealed and the 1913 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

1914 Any elector or candidate who claims that he or she is aggrieved by 1915 any ruling of any election official in connection with any election for 1916 presidential electors and for a senator in Congress and for 1917 representative in Congress or any of them, held in his or her town, or 1918 that there was a mistake in the count of the votes cast at such election 1919 for candidates for such electors, senator in Congress and representative 1920 in Congress, or any of them, at any voting district in his or her town, or 1921 any candidate for such an office who claims that he or she is aggrieved 1922 by a violation of any provision of section 9-355, 9-357 to 9-361, inclusive, 1923 9-364, 9-364a or 9-365 in the casting of absentee ballots at such election, 1924 may bring his or her complaint to any judge of the Supreme Court, in 1925 which he or she shall set out the claimed errors of such election official, 1926 the claimed errors in the count or the claimed violations of said sections. 1927 In any action brought pursuant to the provisions of this section, the 1928 complainant shall file a certification attached to the complaint indicating 1929 that a copy of the complaint has been sent by first-class mail or delivered 1930 to the State Elections Enforcement Commission. If such complaint is 1931 made prior to such election, such judge shall proceed expeditiously to 1932 render judgment on the complaint and shall cause notice of the hearing 1933 to be given to the Secretary of the State and the State Elections 1934 Enforcement Commission. If such complaint is made subsequent to the 1935 election, it shall be brought not later than fourteen days after the election 1936 or, if such complaint is brought in response to [the manual tabulation of 1937 paper ballots authorized] an audit conducted pursuant to section 9-320f, 1938 as amended by this act, or section 30 of this act, such complaint shall be 1939 brought not later than seven days after the close of any such [manual 1940 tabulation] audit, and in either such circumstance, the judge shall 1941 forthwith order a hearing to be had upon such complaint, upon a day 1942 not more than five or less than three days from the making of such order, 1943 and shall cause notice of not less than three or more than five days to be 1944 given to any candidate or candidates whose election may be affected by 1945 the decision upon such hearing, to such election official, to the Secretary 1946 of the State, to the State Elections Enforcement Commission and to any 1947 other party or parties whom such judge deems proper parties thereto, of the time and place for the hearing upon such complaint. Such judge, 1948 1949 with two other judges of the Supreme Court to be designated by the Chief Court Administrator, shall, on the day fixed for such hearing and 1950 1951 without unnecessary delay, proceed to hear the parties. If sufficient 1952 reason is shown, such judges may order any voting tabulators to be 1953 unlocked or any ballot boxes to be opened and a recount of the votes 1954 cast, including absentee ballots, to be made. Such judges shall 1955 thereupon, in the case they, or any two of them, find any error in the 1956 rulings of the election official, any mistake in the count of such votes or 1957 any violation of said sections, certify the result of their finding or 1958 decision, or the finding or decision of a majority of them, to the Secretary 1959 of the State before the first Tuesday after the second Wednesday in

1960	December. Such judges may order a new election or a change in the	
1961	existing election schedule, provided such order complies with Section	
1962	302 of the Help America Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from time	
1963	to time. Such certificate of such judges, or a majority of them, shall be	
1964	final upon all questions relating to the rulings of such election officials,	
1965	to the correctness of such count and, for the purposes of this section	
1966	only, such claimed violations, and shall operate to correct the returns of	
1967	the moderators or presiding officers so as to conform to such finding or	
1968	decision.	

1969 Sec. 34. Section 9-324 of the general statutes is repealed and the 1970 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

1971 Any elector or candidate who claims that such elector or candidate is 1972 aggrieved by any ruling of any election official in connection with any 1973 election for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, State 1974 Treasurer, Attorney General, State Comptroller or judge of probate, held 1975 in such elector's or candidate's town, or that there has been a mistake in 1976 the count of the votes cast at such election for candidates for said offices 1977 or any of them, at any voting district in such elector's or candidate's 1978 town, or any candidate for such an office who claims that such candidate 1979 is aggrieved by a violation of any provision of section 9-355, 9-357 to 9-1980 361, inclusive, 9-364, 9-364a or 9-365 in the casting of absentee ballots at 1981 such election or any candidate for the office of Governor, Lieutenant 1982 Governor, Secretary of the State, State Treasurer, Attorney General or 1983 State Comptroller, who claims that such candidate is aggrieved by a 1984 violation of any provision of sections 9-700 to 9-716, inclusive, may bring 1985 such elector's or candidate's complaint to any judge of the Superior 1986 Court, in which such elector or candidate shall set out the claimed errors 1987 of such election official, the claimed errors in the count or the claimed 1988 violations of said sections. In any action brought pursuant to the 1989 provisions of this section, the complainant shall send a copy of the 1990 complaint by first-class mail, or deliver a copy of the complaint by hand, 1991 to the State Elections Enforcement Commission. If such complaint is 1992 made prior to such election, such judge shall proceed expeditiously to

1993 render judgment on the complaint and shall cause notice of the hearing 1994 to be given to the Secretary of the State and the State Elections 1995 Enforcement Commission. If such complaint is made subsequent to the 1996 election, it shall be brought not later than fourteen days after the election 1997 or, if such complaint is brought in response to [the manual tabulation of 1998 paper ballots authorized] an audit conducted pursuant to section 9-320f, 1999 as amended by this act, or section 30 of this act, such complaint shall be 2000 brought not later than seven days after the close of any such [manual 2001 tabulation] audit and, in either such circumstance, such judge shall 2002 forthwith order a hearing to be had upon such complaint, upon a day 2003 not more than five nor less than three days from the making of such 2004 order, and shall cause notice of not less than three nor more than five days to be given to any candidate or candidates whose election may be 2005 2006 affected by the decision upon such hearing, to such election official, the 2007 Secretary of the State, the State Elections Enforcement Commission and 2008 to any other party or parties whom such judge deems proper parties 2009 thereto, of the time and place for the hearing upon such complaint. Such 2010 judge shall, on the day fixed for such hearing and without unnecessary 2011 delay, proceed to hear the parties. If sufficient reason is shown, such 2012 judge may order any voting tabulators to be unlocked or any ballot 2013 boxes to be opened and a recount of the votes cast, including absentee 2014 ballots, to be made. Such judge shall thereupon, in case such judge finds 2015 any error in the rulings of the election official, any mistake in the count 2016 of the votes or any violation of said sections, certify the result of such 2017 judge's finding or decision to the Secretary of the State before the 2018 fifteenth day of the next succeeding December. Such judge may order a 2019 new election or a change in the existing election schedule. Such 2020 certificate of such judge of such judge's finding or decision shall be final and conclusive upon all questions relating to errors in the rulings of 2021 2022 such election officials, to the correctness of such count, and, for the 2023 purposes of this section only, such claimed violations, and shall operate 2024 to correct the returns of the moderators or presiding officers, so as to 2025 conform to such finding or decision, unless the same is appealed from 2026 as provided in section 9-325.

2027 Sec. 35. Section 9-328 of the general statutes is repealed and the 2028 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

2029 Any elector or candidate claiming to have been aggrieved by any 2030 ruling of any election official in connection with an election for any 2031 municipal office or a primary for justice of the peace, or any elector or 2032 candidate claiming that there has been a mistake in the count of votes 2033 cast for any such office at such election or primary, or any candidate in 2034 such an election or primary claiming that he is aggrieved by a violation 2035 of any provision of sections 9-355, 9-357 to 9-361, inclusive, 9-364, 9-364a 2036 or 9-365 in the casting of absentee ballots at such election or primary, 2037 may bring a complaint to any judge of the Superior Court for relief 2038 therefrom. In any action brought pursuant to the provisions of this 2039 section, the complainant shall send a copy of the complaint by first-class 2040 mail, or deliver a copy of the complaint by hand, to the State Elections 2041 Enforcement Commission. If such complaint is made prior to such 2042 election or primary, such judge shall proceed expeditiously to render 2043 judgment on the complaint and shall cause notice of the hearing to be 2044 given to the Secretary of the State and the State Elections Enforcement 2045 Commission. If such complaint is made subsequent to such election or 2046 primary, it shall be brought not later than fourteen days after such 2047 election or primary, except that if such complaint is brought in response 2048 to [the manual tabulation of paper ballots, authorized] an audit 2049 conducted pursuant to section 9-320f, as amended by this act, or section 2050 30 of this act, such complaint shall be brought not later than seven days after the close of any such [manual tabulation] audit, to any judge of the 2051 2052 Superior Court, in which he shall set out the claimed errors of the 2053 election official, the claimed errors in the count or the claimed violations 2054 of said sections. Such judge shall forthwith order a hearing to be had 2055 upon such complaint, upon a day not more than five nor less than three 2056 days from the making of such order, and shall cause notice of not less 2057 than three nor more than five days to be given to any candidate or 2058 candidates whose election or nomination may be affected by the 2059 decision upon such hearing, to such election official, the Secretary of the 2060 State, the State Elections Enforcement Commission and to any other

2061 party or parties whom such judge deems proper parties thereto, of the time and place for the hearing upon such complaint. Such judge shall, 2062 2063 on the day fixed for such hearing and without unnecessary delay, 2064 proceed to hear the parties. If sufficient reason is shown, he may order 2065 any voting tabulators to be unlocked or any ballot boxes to be opened 2066 and a recount of the votes cast, including absentee ballots, to be made. 2067 Such judge shall thereupon, if he finds any error in the rulings of the 2068 election official or any mistake in the count of the votes, certify the result 2069 of his finding or decision to the Secretary of the State before the tenth 2070 day succeeding the conclusion of the hearing. Such judge may order a 2071 new election or primary or a change in the existing election schedule. 2072 Such certificate of such judge of his finding or decision shall be final and 2073 conclusive upon all questions relating to errors in the ruling of such 2074 election officials, to the correctness of such count, and, for the purposes 2075 of this section only, such claimed violations, and shall operate to correct 2076 the returns of the moderators or presiding officers, so as to conform to 2077 such finding or decision, except that this section shall not affect the right of appeal to the Supreme Court and it shall not prevent such judge from 2078 2079 reserving such questions of law for the advice of the Supreme Court as 2080 provided in section 9-325. Such judge may, if necessary, issue his writ of 2081 mandamus, requiring the adverse party and those under him to deliver 2082 to the complainant the appurtenances of such office, and shall cause his 2083 finding and decree to be entered on the records of the Superior Court in 2084 the proper judicial district.

Sec. 36. Subsection (a) of section 9-329a of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*1, 2026):

(a) Any (1) elector or candidate aggrieved by a ruling of an election
official in connection with any primary held pursuant to (A) section 9423, 9-425 or 9-464, or (B) a special act, (2) elector or candidate who
alleges that there has been a mistake in the count of the votes cast at such
primary, or (3) candidate in such a primary who alleges that he is
aggrieved by a violation of any provision of sections 9-355, 9-357 to 9-

2094 361, inclusive, 9-364, 9-364a or 9-365 in the casting of absentee ballots at such primary, may bring his complaint to any judge of the Superior 2095 2096 Court for appropriate action. In any action brought pursuant to the 2097 provisions of this section, the complainant shall file a certification 2098 attached to the complaint indicating that a copy of the complaint has 2099 been sent by first-class mail or delivered to the State Elections 2100 Enforcement Commission. If such complaint is made prior to such 2101 primary such judge shall proceed expeditiously to render judgment on 2102 the complaint and shall cause notice of the hearing to be given to the 2103 Secretary of the State and the State Elections Enforcement Commission. 2104 If such complaint is made subsequent to such primary it shall be 2105 brought, not later than fourteen days after such primary, or if such 2106 complaint is brought in response to [the manual tabulation of paper 2107 ballots, described in] an audit conducted pursuant to section 9-320f, as 2108 amended by this act, or section 30 of this act, such complaint shall be 2109 brought, not later than seven days after the close of any such [manual 2110 tabulation] audit, to any judge of the Superior Court.

2111 Sec. 37. Subsection (b) of section 9-3 of the general statutes, as 2112 amended by section 26 of this act, is repealed and the following is 2113 substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

2114 (b) During any municipal, state or federal election, primary or 2115 recanvass, or any audit conducted pursuant to section 9-320f, as 2116 amended by this act, or section 30 of this act, the Secretary of the State 2117 may issue an order, whether orally or in writing, to any registrar of 2118 voters or moderator to correct any irregularity or impropriety in the 2119 conduct of such election, primary or recanvass or audit. Any such order 2120 shall be effective upon issuance. As soon as practicable after issuance of 2121 an oral order pursuant to this subsection, the Secretary shall reduce such 2122 order to writing, cite within such order any applicable provision of law 2123 authorizing such order and cause a copy of such written order to be 2124 delivered to the individual who is the subject of such order or, in the 2125 case that such order was originally issued in writing, issue a subsequent 2126 written order that conforms to such requirements. The Superior Court,

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2127	on application of the Secretary or the Attorney General, may enforce by
2128	appropriate decree or process any such order issued pursuant to this
2129	subsection.
2130	Sec. 38. Subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 9-229 of the general
2131	statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
2132	(Effective January 1, 2026):
2133	(3) The duties of each regional election advisor shall include, but not
2134	be limited to: (A) Holding the instructional sessions described in
2135	subdivision (2) of this subsection; (B) communicating with registrars of
2136	voters to assist, to the extent permitted under law, in preparations for
2137	and operations of any election, primary or recanvass, or any audit
2138	conducted pursuant to section 9-320f, as amended by this act, or section
2139	30 of this act; and (C) transmitting any order issued by the Secretary of
2140	the State, pursuant to subsection (b) of section 9-3, as amended by this
2141	<u>act</u> .
2142	Sec. 39. Subsection (a) of section 9-229b of the general statutes is
2143	repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (<i>Effective January</i>
2144	1, 2026):
2145	(a) Any regional council of governments organized under the
2146	provisions of sections 4-124i to 4-124p, inclusive, may appoint a regional
2147	election advisor, who shall represent, consult with and act on behalf of
2148	such regional council of governments and any combination of regional
2149	councils of governments or member towns of regional councils of
2150	governments that may seek the assistance of such regional election
2151	advisor. A regional election advisor shall consult and coordinate with
2152	the Secretary of the State to provide such assistance in preparations for
2153	and operations of any election, primary or recanvass, or any audit
2154	conducted pursuant to section 9-320f, as amended by this act, or section
2155	<u>30 of this act</u> .

2156 Sec. 40. Section 9-320g of the general statutes is repealed and the 2157 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*): 2158 Notwithstanding any provision of this title, the Secretary of the State, 2159 in consultation and coordination with The University of Connecticut, 2160 may authorize the use of electronic equipment for the purpose of 2161 conducting any audit required pursuant to section 9-320f, as amended 2162 by this act, [for any primary or general election held on or after January 2163 1, 2016] as amended by this act, or section 30 of this act, provided (1) the 2164 Secretary of the State prescribes specifications for (A) the testing, set-up 2165 and operation of such equipment, and (B) the training of election 2166 officials in the use of such equipment; and (2) the Secretary of the State 2167 and The University of Connecticut agree that such equipment is 2168 sufficient in quantity to accommodate the total number of audits to be 2169 conducted. Nothing in this section shall preclude any candidate or 2170 elector from seeking additional remedies pursuant to chapter 149 as a 2171 result of any information revealed by such process.

2172 Sec. 41. (*Effective July 1, 2025*) The Secretary of the State shall establish 2173 a pilot program for the conduct of risk-limiting audits at municipal 2174 elections in 2025. The Secretary shall randomly select three 2175 municipalities for participation in such pilot program, provided the 2176 Secretary shall select: (1) One municipality with a population of less 2177 than twenty thousand; (2) one municipality with a population of twenty 2178 thousand or greater, but less than ninety thousand; and (3) one 2179 municipality with a population of ninety thousand or greater. For the 2180 purposes of this section, "risk-limiting audit" has the same meaning as 2181 provided in section 30 of this act and "population" means the estimated 2182 number of people according to the most recent version of the State 2183 Register and Manual prepared pursuant to section 3-90 of the general 2184 statutes."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:Section 1July 1, 20259-163aaSec. 2July 1, 20259-163bbSec. 3July 1, 20259-19jSec. 4July 1, 20259-228a

SIID I LEO		Amendin
Sec. 5	January 1, 2026	9-56
Sec. 6	January 1, 2026	9-229(d)
Sec. 7	January 1, 2026	9-169
Sec. 8	from passage	9-322a
Sec. 9	from passage	New section
Sec. 10	January 1, 2026	9-388
Sec. 11	January 1, 2026	9-391(c)
Sec. 12	January 1, 2026	9-400
Sec. 13	January 1, 2026	9-452
Sec. 14	from passage	9-404b(d)
Sec. 15	from passage	9-410(c)
Sec. 16	from passage	9-453e
Sec. 17	from passage	9-453j
Sec. 18	from passage	9-140(k)
Sec. 19	January 1, 2026	9-250
Sec. 20	January 1, 2026	9-437(j)
Sec. 21	January 1, 2026	9-135a(a)
Sec. 22	January 1, 2026	9-135b
Sec. 23	January 1, 2026	9-256
Sec. 24	from passage	9-140b(a)
Sec. 25	from passage	New section
Sec. 26	from passage	9-3
Sec. 27	July 1, 2026	9-150a(d)
Sec. 28	January 1, 2026	9-311(a)
Sec. 29	January 1, 2026	9-311(d)
Sec. 30	from passage	New section
Sec. 31	January 1, 2026	9-320f
Sec. 32	January 1, 2026	New section
Sec. 33	January 1, 2026	9-323
Sec. 34	January 1, 2026	9-324
Sec. 35	January 1, 2026	9-328
Sec. 36	January 1, 2026	9-329a(a)
Sec. 37	January 1, 2026	9-3(b)
Sec. 38	January 1, 2026	9-229(b)(3)
Sec. 39	January 1, 2026	9-229b(a)
Sec. 40	January 1, 2026	9-320g
Sec. 41	July 1, 2025	New section